



TOWN OF ATHOL

ANNUAL REPORT

2013-2014



ATHOL PUBLIC LIBRARY, Renovation Complete
Photo: Ed Wonsek

TOWN OF ATHOL
REPORTS OF TOWN DEPARTMENTS, OFFICIALS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES
July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014
TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Elected Officers & Town Boards
 - i. Town Manager
 - ii. Town Clerk
 - iii. Board of Selectmen
 - iv. Finance & Warrant Advisory Committee
 - v. Library Trustees
 - vi. Athol Housing Authority
2. Finance
 - i. Accountant
 - ii. Assessor
 - iii. Treasurer & Collector
3. Public Safety
 - i. Fire Department / Emergency Management
 - ii. Police Department
 - iii. Board of Health
 - iv. Animal Inspector
 - v. Building Dept
 - vi. Wiring Inspector
4. Public Services
 - i. Council on Aging
 - ii. Public Library
 - iii. Veterans
 - iv. Planning Dept.
 - v. Sealer of Weights & Measures

5. Public Works

6. Elections / Town Meetings

7. Schools

- i. ARRSB
- ii. Monty Tech

8. Committees

- i. Athol Orange Joint Cable Advisory Committee
- ii. Charter Review Committee
- iii. Capital Program Committee
- iv. Memorial Building Committee
- v. Memorial Hall Revitalization
- vi. Planning Board
- vii. Vacant & Abandon Building Committee
- viii. Zoning Bylaw Review Committee

CHAPTER ONE

PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Reports of the Town Clerk, Board
of Selectmen, Finance Warrant &
Advisory Committee, Library
Trustees, Housing Authority

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Greetings!

This is the first of what I hope will be many annual reports during my tenure as your Town Manager.

Early in 2014, following the departure of former town manager Michael Szlosek, Board of Selectmen Chairman Steve Raymond and Administrative Assistant Heather Brissette collaborated to ensure consistent administration of Town operations until mid-August when I began my duties.

Mr. Raymond and Selectman Lee Chauvette also worked closely with Ken Duffy and Ben Feldman of the Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee to develop the Town's FY15 operating budget in a difficult economic climate. The Town owes each of these individuals a debt of gratitude for a job well done.

Upon my arrival in Athol, the Board of Selectmen charted several short-term goals primarily centered on financial issues raised in a 2014 report by the Mass. Dept. of Revenue (DOR).

During my first three months of employment, I focused heavily on the report and formalized routine meetings of the Town's top financial officers, namely, Town Accountant Christine Mailloux, Treasurer-Collector Eileen Bristol and Principal Assessor Lisa Aldrich. Known as the "Finance Team" we worked collaboratively to assess the DOR report, implement recommendations and to complete a key goal; establishment of the first written set of financial policies for the Town.

In October 2014, the Board of Selectmen formally adopted the "Fiscal Management Policies" which will now inform the Town's budgeting, free cash, borrowing, capital and reserve fund processes. In addition, at the recommendation of the Finance Team, the fall Town Meeting endorsed creation of an Other Post Employment Benefits Trust Fund to begin planning for future unfunded liabilities.

These policies and the establishment of the OPEB trust fund helped the Town to improve its bond rating from the "single A" level to "double A" (AA- Standard & Poor's) in November 2014. The improved rating helped the Town achieve a competitive interest rate for its initial borrowing for the new school project.

Later in the year, the Finance Team prepared its final draft response to the DOR report that will be distributed to the Board of Selectmen in early 2015.

With the Town's financial house in order, I will next begin working to manage the continued escalation of health care costs, seek greater efficiencies within municipal government (eg. regional dispatch services; blanket service contracts; renegotiated fee agreements) and provide direction to ensure Town departments are aligned to foster an environment that stimulates economic growth in the community.

It's been a whirlwind first six months, but, I would not have it any other way.

I am very fortunate to hold the position of Town Manager, and you can be assured that I will give the people of Athol my best effort. You deserve no less.

Sincerely,

Shaun A. Suhoski
Town Manager

FACTS ABOUT ATHOL

HISTORY	April 20, 1733, General Court of Massachusetts laid out the township of Pequage. September 17, 1735, the first five families settled here. March 6, 1762, the township was incorporated and the name changed to Athol.
LOCATION	North central Massachusetts, 38 miles north of Worcester, and 71 miles west of Boston.
AREA	Land 32.34 square miles Water .73 square miles Total 33.07 square miles
POPULATION	11,584
REGISTERED VOTERS	6,327
POLLING PLACES	Precinct 1: Congregational Church 1225 Chestnut Street Precinct 2: Liberty Hall, Town Hall 584 Main Street Precinct 3: Liberty Hall, Town Hall 584 Main Street
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION	First Monday in April
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING	Second Monday in June
FALL TOWN MEETING	Third Monday in October
TOWN GOV'T	Open Town Meeting Five Member Board of Selectmen Town Manager
TAX RATE	\$18.43
TOWN HALL OFFICE HOURS	Mon, Wed., Thurs. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM Tuesday 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM Friday CLOSED

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICERS**

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Markey
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
(202) 224-2742 Washington DC
(617) 565-8159 Boston

Elizabeth Warren
2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston MA 02203
(617) 565-3179 Boston
(202) 224-4543 Washington DC

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, Second Congressional District

James McGovern
438 Cannon HOB
Washington DC 20515
(202) 225-6101 Washington DC
(978) 466-3552 Leominster

GOVERNOR

Deval Patrick
State House, Room 360
Boston MA 02133
(617) 725-4005

COUNCILLOR, Seventh District

Jennie L. Caissie
State House, Room 184
Boston MA 02133

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT, Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, & Middlesex District

Stephen Brewer
State House, Room 109B
Boston MA 02133
(617) 722-1540

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT, Second Franklin District

Denise Andrews
State House, Room B1
Boston MA 02133
(617) 722-2425

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR

Lawrence P. McLaughlin, 2015

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Lee. E. Chauvette, 2015

Susannah M. Lee, 2016

Stephen R. Raymond, 2016

Anthony A. Brighenti, 2017

Alan D. Dodge, 2017

ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

From Athol:

Joao Baptista, 2015

Deborah Kuzmeskas, 2015

Dale H. Lougee, 2016

Joseph F. Maga, 2016

Amber Parker, 2016

Lee E. Chauvette, 2017

Mitchell Grosky, 2017

From Royalston:

Angelica Favreau, 2015

Mary Barclay, 2015

Nancy D. Melbourne, 2017

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Carol A. Ambrozy, 2015

Francis W. Foster, 2015

Sharon A. Brighenti, 2016

Margaret Feldman, 2016

John R. Greene, 2017

Margaret L. Young, 2017

ATHOL HOUSING AUTHORITY

Edward C. Sawin, 2015

Cathy Muzzy, 2016

Cathy Savoy, 2017

Edward Ledgard, 2019

Charles Winn, 2011 (State Appointee)

CONSTABLES

Kenneth A. Vaidulas, 2015

Leon A. Lozier, 2016

Randy Mitchell, 2017

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

Admin. Asst., Board of Selectmen/Town Manager	Heather Brissette
Alternate Inspector of Buildings/Zoning Agent	Brian Gale
Animal Control Officer	Jennifer Arsenault
Assessor	Lisa Aldrich
Asst. Agent Board of Health	Lori A. Wiita
Assistant Collector	Susan M. Sargent
Assistant Gas Inspector	Robert Mallet
Assistant Municipal Coordinator	John Duguay
Assistant Plumbing Inspector	Rick Geyster
Assistant Superintendent of Public Works	Duane Truehart
Assistant Town Accountant	Kala Fisher
Assistant Town Clerk	Carol Forand
Assistant Treasurer	Bridget Jowder
Assistant Wire Inspector	Gordon Dickie
Board of Health Agent	Deborah Karan
Civil Defense Director	Thomas Lozier
Collector/Treasurer	Eileen Bristol
Deputy Fire Chief	John Duguay
Director, Council on Aging	Cathy Savoy
Director of Veterans' Benefits & Services	Neil McGuirk
Emergency Management Director	Thomas Lozier
Fire Chief	Thomas Lozier
Inspector of Animals	Jennifer Arsenault
Inspector of Buildings/Zoning Agent	Brianna Skowrya
Inspector of Gas Piping & Appliances	Daniel Joly
Inspector of Wires	Gary Terroy
Library Director	Debra Blanchard
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Committee	Toni L. Phillips
Municipal Coordinator	Thomas Lozier
Parking Meter Attendant	Ronny Cote
Plumbing Inspector	Daniel Joly
Police Chief	Timothy Anderson
Police Lieutenant	Kevin Heath
Sealer of Weights & Measures	John R. Greene
Superintendent of Public Works	Douglas Walsh
Superintendent of Schools	Anthony Polito
Town Accountant	Christine Mailloux
Town Clerk	Nancy E. Burnham
Town Counsel	Mark Goldstein
Town Manager	Michael Szlosek
Town Planner	Andrea Buglione

TOWN BOARDS/COMMITTEES

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015

ATHOL CULTURAL COUNCIL

Robin Brzowski, 2016
Brenda Buck, 2016
Anne Cutler-Russo, 2016
Joann Deacon, 2016
Tabitha DeHays, 2016
Melinda Jack, 2015
Marie Lehmann, 2016
Kelsey Matthews, 2014
Jean Shaughnessy, 2016

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Heather Brissette, 2015
Kenneth A. Vaidulas, 2017
Lisa Aldrich, indefinite

BOARD OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Steve Wills, 2015
Kathy Norton, 2016
Andrea Buglione, 2018
David Small, 2019
Jacqueline Doherty, 2019
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2017

BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

Timothy Anderson, 2015
Nancy Burnham, 2015
Kala Fisher, 2015
Toni Phillips, 2015
Jean Robinson, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Daniel Carey, 2015
Mark Wright, 2015

CAPITAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

John Lambert, 2015
James Smith, 2015
Erik Euvard, 2016
Dennis Killay, 2016
Michael Butler, 2017

Linda Oldach, 2017
Robert Muzzy, 2018

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

Heather Brissette, 2015
Nancy Burnham, 2015
Lee Chauvette, 2015
Joan Gross
Philip King, 2015
Susannah Lee, 2015
Lawrence McLaughlin, 2015
Elizabeth Peterson, 2015
Keith Williams, 2015

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Walter Lehmann, 2015
Robert Muzzy, 2015
Katheryn Harrow, 2016
Dennis Killay, 2016
James Smith, 2016
John R. Greene, 2017
Laura Smith, 2017

Associate Members:

Elwin Bacon, 2015
Jamie Briggs, 2015

CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD

Timothy Anderson
Anthony Belloli
Brian Stoddard
Joseph Wojtkowski
Christine Mailloux (ex officio)
Lynne Barilone, Administrator

COUNCIL ON AGING

Lillian Bachelder, 2015
Walter Lehman, 2015
Jean Ryder, 2015
Karen Lachance, 2016
Stephen Larry, 2016
Margaret Young, 2016
Beatrice Bowers, 2017
Ruth Black, 2017
Kathy Cygan, 2017
Cathy Savoy, Director

DOWNTOWN VITALITY COMMITTEE

Carol Ambrozy, 2015
Diana Beland, 2015
Richard Godin, 2015
Kristin Grenier, 2015
Ranee LaPointe, 2015
Stephen Raymond, 2015

Associate Members:

David Maroni, 2015
Paula Robinson, 2015
David Small, 2015
Shelly Small, 2015

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION (EDIC)

Clinton Sykes, 2015
Calvin Taylor, 2015
Richard Plotkin, 2016
Martin Robichaud, 2016
James W. Meehan, Jr., 2017
Keith McGuirk, 2017
Vacant, 2017

Associate Members:

Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015

FINANCE AND WARRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Cynthia Caldwell, 2015
Gary Deyo, 2015
Ben Feldman, 2016
Paul Nelson, 2016
Kenneth Duffy, 2017
Erik Euvrard, 2017
Vacant, 2017

BOARD OF HEALTH

Norma Purple, 2015
Joan Hamlett, 2016
Earle Baldwin, 2017

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mark Killay, 2015
Carolyn Brouillet, 2016
John R. Greene, 2016
Shelly Small, 2017
Jean Shaughnessy, 2017

HOLIDAY DECORATING COMMITTEE

Anthony Brighenti, 2015
Karen Rathburn, 2015
Stephen Raymond, 2015
Charles Shatos, 2015
Roger Watts, 2015
Herbert Wheeler, 2015

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lisa Aldrich, 2015
David Boutall, 2015
Ben Feldman, 2015
Kevin Heath, 2015
Robert Hughes, 2015
Doug Kaczmarczyk, 2015

Paul Landry, 2015

MEMORIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Anthony Brighenti, 2015
Nancy E. Burnham, 2015
Lee E. Chauvette, 2015
Paul Dubey, 2015
Ben J. Feldman, 2015
John R. Greene, 2015
Vacant, 2015

MEMORIAL HALL REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

Bonnie Benjamin, 2015
Rene Lake-Gagliardi, 2015
Joanne Rich, 2015
Ethan Stone, 2015
Vacant, 2015

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Earle Baldwin, 2015
Robert Curley, 2015
Erik Euvrard, 2015
Joshua Feldman, 2015
Brian Hall, 2015
David Small, 2015

Associate Members:

Richard D. Godin, 2015
Robert Muzzy, 2015

PERSONNEL BOARD

Richard Donovan, 2016
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2016
Vacant, 2017

PLANNING BOARD

Calvin Taylor, 2015
Lynn Harper, 2016
Ann Taylor, 2017
John Lambert, 2018
David Maroni, 2019

RECREATION COMMISSION

Kim Carasquillo, 2015
Kevin Colo, 2015
Sandra King, 2015
Becky Lanoue, 2015
Joni Paulino, 2015

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Elizabeth Whipps, 2015
Gerard Lozier, 2016
Hugh A. Horrigan, 2017
Nancy E. Burnham, Town Clerk

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Anthony Brighenti, 2015
Sharon Brighenti, 2015
Andrea Buglione, 2015
Margaret Feldman, 2015
Travis Knechtel, 2015
Gregory McGuane, 2015
David Small, 2015

TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCING COMMITTEE

Lisa Aldrich, 2015
Ken Duffy, 2015
Christine Mailloux, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015

TOWN ENERGY COMMITTEE

Andrea Buglione, 2015
Aimee Hanson, 2015
David Maroni, 2015
James Maxwell, 2015
Vacant, 2015

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Timothy Anderson
Douglas Walsh
Thomas Lozier
Alfred Blanchard, 2015
Kevin Heath, 2015
Walter Lehman, 2015
Cathy Savoy, 2015
Erwin Merrifield, 2015
Vacant, 2015

VACANT & UNOCCUPIED BUILDING COMMITTEE

Anthony Brighenti, 2015
John Duguay, 2015
Harry Haldt, 2015
Deborah Karan, 2015
Susannah Lee, 2015
Robert Matthews, 2015
Brianna Skowrya, 2015
Calvin Taylor, 2015
Bruce Winters, 2015

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Robert Mallet, 2015
Richard Coburn, 2016
Susan Mondy Sykes, 2017
Elvin R. Chartrand, 2018
Henry D'Orto, Jr., 2019

Associate Members:

Kala Fisher, 2015
Richard Godin, 2015

ZONING BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

William Aucoin, 2015
Pam Browning, 2015
Richard Godin, 2015
Vacant, 2015
Vacant, 2015

WHEN BOARDS & COMMITTEES MEET

DATE OF MEETING	TIME OF MEETING	PLACE OF MEETING
ATHOL HOUSING AUTHORITY		
1st Wednesday	9:15 AM	21 Morton Meadows
ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE		
3rd Wednesday	6:30 PM	Middle School
BOARD OF ASSESSORS		
Tuesday	As posted	Room 15
BOARD OF HEALTH		
4th Tuesday	4:00 PM	Room 1
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES (no meeting July & August)		
3rd Wednesday	6:00 PM	Library
BOARD OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
1 st Wednesday	7:00 PM	Liberty Hall
BOARD OF SELECTMEN		
1 st & 3rd Tuesday	7:00 PM	Room 21
CONSERVATION COMMISSION		
4th Tuesday	7:00 PM	Liberty Hall
CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD		
4 th Wednesday	9:00 AM	Room 3
COUNCIL ON AGING		
3rd Tuesday	1:00 PM	Room 21
EDIC		
2 nd Wednesday	7:00 PM	Liberty Hall
FINANCE AND WARRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE		
1 st & 3 rd Wednesday	7:00 PM	Liberty Hall
PLANNING BOARD		
1st Monday	7:00 PM	Room 21
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS		
4th Wednesday	7:00 PM	Room 21

ZONING BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

2nd Monday

7:00 PM

Room 21

All meetings are held in Memorial Building unless otherwise noted.

Meeting notices and agendas are available on the Town of Athol website at www.athol-ma.gov

VITAL RECORDS

	7/1/12 - 6/30/13	7/1/13 - 6/30/14
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Births	92	103
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Marriages	52	58
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Deaths	157	178
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORT

In FY 13 the Town of Athol created a Vacant and Abandoned Building Committee that included the Board of Health, the Board of Selectmen, the Building Department and the fire department. There was a partnership created with MRPC and the MA Attorney General's Office to work on the issue.

The Library moved out of the old library, with the help of a "shopping cart brigade", and reopened at the Senior Center on June 30th.

There was a lot of work done on the possibility of a new elementary school. The Athol/Royalston Regional School District requested a feasibility study that was done. An agreement was signed in the fall which began the school building process and set up a debt exclusion ballot question for the fall of 2013.

At the Annual Town meeting Dr. Howard Adams received the Margaret Grazis Employee of the Year Award. The Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Adams as the Animal Inspector after 50 years of service.

David Ames retired as Town Manager after nine years of service. Michael Szlosek was hired as the new Town Manager and he started in Athol on September 12th.

There was the good news concerning the North Quabbin Business Park, and the ground breaking occurred for Market Basket in May of 2013.

The construction of the new parking lot was completed on Traverse Street.

The office of the Board of Selectmen and the Treasurer/Collectors office switched their locations.

Steve Raymond was elected Chairman of the BOS replacing outgoing Chairman Susie Lee in April.

The Annual Report of the Chairman of the FWAC – June 10, 2013

The members of the Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee are appointed by the Town Moderator to be an independent advisory committee, representing our fellow citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Athol in the process of local town government.

The committee, comprised of seven members, reviews all warrant articles including the town budget and advises the citizens attending the town meeting what we feel is the best course of action to take on a given article.

The committee holds bi-weekly meetings throughout the year, meeting with the Town Manager along with various boards, committees and department heads as needed – reviewing any matter of importance that may come up during the year. We also review the current fiscal year budget on a monthly basis – assisting the Town Manager in oversight of the town's finances.

Lastly, the committee is responsible for the administration of the town's Reserve Account. This account contains an amount of money that has been set aside annually to provide an immediate funding source for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures, without the need of a special town meeting. The committee reviews all requests made concerning this fund and allocates funding based on the merit of each issue. At the end of each fiscal year – any unused funding is returned as "free cash" for future town use.

I would to take a few minutes to explain to the assembly the review process that takes place on the proposed operational budget and the articles that appear before you this evening. I think it is important for the assembly to understand how the committee arrives at the various recommendations to help you make the decisions that will be coming before you at this town meeting.

Concerning the budget review process – the Committee begins this task in January once all departments, committees and boards have submitted their operational requests to the Town Manager.

We meet with all department heads and most committees and boards, reviewing their requests and asking various questions to help us understand their needs and requirements for the next fiscal year. This process takes three months – or about six to eight meetings.

During this time – the Town Manager is beginning his process of molding the budget to fit the revenue projections for the upcoming fiscal year.

In early April as required by the Town Charter, the Town Manager presents his projected budget to a joint meeting of the Selectmen and Finance Committee.

Following this public presentation, the Finance Committee begins its review of the Town Managers budget. This process takes about two months – or another 3-5 meetings. It is at this point we make suggestions or express concerns about the proposed budget.

This year, due to a difficult budget situation – we asked the Town Manager for various budget options to review. We reviewed three budget options – which offered various operational scenarios for the coming fiscal year.

Finally - three weeks before the Town Meeting, the Committee reviews and votes its recommendations on all articles you have before you this evening. At this meeting, we call in the various sponsors of the articles presented for your consideration and ask any questions that we feel are needed for us to make an informed recommendation.

As you can see – we take our responsibility very seriously. This is not simply a “rubber stamp” committee. We realize that most of you along with our friends and neighbors do not have the time needed to attend various meetings to get detailed information about a particular issue or subject. We act as your eyes and ears within the workings of town government.

Along with these charges and responsibilities – we also take time between the summer months and the first of the year to review a given subject that we believe is important – not only to the function of town government and services– but also to help educate ourselves as Finance Committee members.

Over the past few years the FWAC has reviewed the municipal ambulance operation and last year we conducted a full review of the Police Department and its staffing needs.

This fall we will be meeting jointly with the Capital Planning Committee to study the long-term capital planning needs for the town and hopefully develop a stable funding source for those needs.

Over the recent past – funding for capital planning has come largely from unspent previous year appropriations – also known as “free cash” and town land sales. The issue with this type of funding is the volatility of this funding source from year to year and the likelihood that due to tighter operational budgets this “free cash” funding source will see a reduced availability going forward.

In fact, the capital planning budget for FY14 has been reduced by over 50% from previous levels due to a reduced level of available “free cash” – which is being used in part to fund operations. This year’s capital budget contains no use of “free cash”. It is apparent we will need to come up with a stable base-line funding source for capital expenses for the future.

Also, going forward the Committee has discussed looking into the Town Hall operations and the staffing needs of the DPW.

On behalf of the entire Committee I would like to thank all department heads, committees and boards for their cooperation during the past year. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.

Submitted,

Ken Duffy
Chairman, FWAC

The Athol Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee:

Ken Duffy, Chairman, Ben Feldman, Vice Chairman

Members: Cynthia Caldwell, Gary Deyo, Alan Dodge, Erik Euvrard and Paul Nelson

Athol Public Library

Report of the Board of Library Trustees 2013-2014

To: The Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Athol

The newly renovated Athol Public Library reopened for business on December 30th, 2013. The general contractor D.A.Sullivan & Sons continued work in the building for three months after that putting on finishing touches and correcting any issues. Thanks go to both the workmen and the library staff for their cheerful and helpful cooperation to keep the library open and functioning despite some inconveniences and interruptions. The public enjoyed watching what the workers were doing many days. While waiting for the large wood wall at the staircase to be installed, staff put out markers and invited the public to write a good wish or memory on the wall.

Perhaps the other very exciting news this year was the announcement that our library received LEED Platinum certification for energy efficiency and design, the FIRST historic library in the country to do so.

During the year of construction, the Construction Committee made many thoughtful recommendations to the Trustees and the Board wishes to publicly thank them for their diligence and hard work. Change orders were under one percent which is virtually unheard of. This committee logged many, many hours in meetings and site visits to bring this project to a successful conclusion. The names of these individuals are listed in the Director's report. Special thanks go to Chairman Dr. Carol Ambrozy and the weekly job meeting team of Dr. Ambrozy, Ken Vaidulas and Director Deb Blanchard.

The unfortunate side of the project was the late delivery by the general contractor. They were three months late and the library was forced to stay at the Senior Center longer incurring three additional months of rent. The contractor agreed to the full amount of liquidated damages which paid for all the unexpected bills associated with a delay and for the additional months of rent to the Senior Center. All in all, the library gave over \$100,000 to the COA for rent, utilities, and improvements to their building.

The library building shakeout continued throughout the year and has been a real learning experience for everyone. The new and larger building is wonderful for both the staff and the public.

Early on, the Trustees decided not to reopen the Main Street entrance. There were several reasons for this, chief among them was security. With business more than doubling, the staff was so busy that they could not maintain visual control of that door. They need to be able to see who is in the building and that could only happen if everyone came up the inside stairs or the elevator. Additionally that entrance is not heated as is the new entrance, so it was an added area for heat to escape the building, driving up heating or cooling costs. And after seeing how much dirt gets tracked into the new entrance (which is equipped to handle it with grates and walk off mats), there was concern for the new wood floor in the Carnegie and the cost to have to refinish that yearly. By not allowing people to come in the front door, the floor still looks as good as new after a year.

There were some issues with the water pressure coming into the building which affected the fire suppression system. The Trustees met with the Selectmen and the DPW on a couple of occasions to determine the problem and find a solution. Water pressure had gone up over 200 on one instance when the GC and engineers were here for a meeting about the issue. The end result was that the library paid to

have an additional check valve installed in front of the fire suppression system and the DPW paid to have a pressure recorder device installed at the library. There have been no further occurrences.

The Trustees met with Selectmen again to discuss the solar panels and the PPA. As a result a new agreement was signed and the solar company is going to give the library the panels once they are installed on the roof. This gift is valued at \$100,000.

For three months in the spring the Friends paid for the library to be open on Saturdays and also Tuesdays and Thursdays until 8 p.m. to determine best hours for the public. Results indicated that between 400-600 people come in during week days and a little over 100 on Saturdays. Staff said that 75 percent of those in on Saturday also came in during the week. The funding request to the town to open Saturdays was turned down by the Finance Committee and Town Manager.

Policies that were revised or instituted this year included: Computer Policy, Group Study Rooms Policy, Art Gift Acceptance, Art Exhibit, Bulletin Board, Integrated Pest Management Plan, Sustainable Purchasing and Green Cleaning.

In staff news this year, Tom Deam resigned for health reasons. Rheba Gagne was promoted from substitute to part time technician to take Tom's place. We welcomed Sean Tomlinson who was hired as a temporary substitute to take Rheba's position as a sub.

In December, the Trustees received notice that Mildred Geneva Foster Mann left the library \$5,000 in her will. The Trustees were very appreciative of this bequest and put it into an interest bearing account with her name and the stipulation that only the accrued interest be spent. There are no other restrictions on the money.

Special thanks are due to local resident Lee Legassy for fixing our beautiful antique grandfather clock free of charge. Everyone enjoys seeing it in the restored Carnegie library.

The PARC grant obtained through an application written by Carol Ambrozy began in the spring. Design work by Devellis Zrein and land transfer was completed by Town Counsel Mark Goldstein and Scott Burns in June. The contracts with D.A.Sullivan & Sons, Tappe and BHA were amended by change order to finish this work which will start in July.

We thank everyone for their continued support of the library during our first year back in our new building. It should be highlighted here however, that an enlarged facility brings with it new or increased costs. Our budget last year did not even cover the cost of contractual raises. To make the budget work, because we were under a warranty year, many service contracts were funded at zero as there was no charge this past year. These costs will return after the warranty period and should be planned for in a new fiscal year. The public would also like the library to be open more hours and when economic times improve, hopefully the town will find a way to add more staff to accomplish this.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret L. Young, Chairman
Margaret 'Susie' Feldman, Clerk
Carol Ambrozy
Sharon Brighenti
Frank Foster
J.R. Greene

ATHOL HOUSING AUTHORITY
ANNUAL REPORT
7/1/14 – 6/30/15

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Athol Housing Authority provides affordable housing to low and moderate income families, as well as to the elderly and disabled. Housing is available based on Federal and State Program Regulations.

The Authority owns 78 Elderly/Handicapped units under the Massachusetts Chapter 667 Housing Program as well as 16 units of Family units under the Massachusetts Chapter 705 Housing Program.

Additionally, the Authority administers housing subsidies for 45 families under the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program and 58 families under the Federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Effective January 5, 2015, the Orange Housing Authority (OHA) shares office space with the Athol Housing Authority (AHA). The combined staff is made up of the following:

Christi Martin, Executive Director/Secretary to the Board (AHA)
Bridget Sullivan, Program Administrator (AHA)
Connie Parmenter, MRVP Administrator (AHA)
Linda Lefebvre, Receptionist (OHA)
Lynn Price, Receptionist (OHA)
Stephen Larry, Maintenance Supervisor (AHA)
Steven Belanger, Maintenance Supervisor (OHA)
Arthur Provencher, Maintenance Staff (AHA)

The Authority is overseen by the Board of Commissioners, which meet on a monthly basis. The Board is made up of the following:

Cathy Savoy, Chairperson
Edward Sawin, Vice-Chairperson
Ted Ledgard, Treasurer
Cathy Muzzy, Commissioner

The office of the Athol Housing Authority is located at 21 Morton Meadows and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Phone 978-249-4848. Fax 978-249-9604.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christi Martin
Executive Director
Athol Housing Authority

CHAPTER TWO

FINANCE

Reports of the Accountant,
Collector, Treasurer &
Assessor

**FINANCIAL REPORTS
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, Town Manager and the Citizens of Athol, Massachusetts:

The following reports are the financial transactions of the Town of Athol for the twelve (12) month period ending June 30, 2014.

Receipts and Payments July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014		
General Fund Revenue		
Taxes & Excises:		
Personal Property Taxes	435,153	
Real Estate Taxes	10,588,084	
Tax Title Redeemed	63,917	
Sale of Tax Title Possessions		
Motor Vehicle Excises	1,034,835	
Penalties & Interest Earned on Taxes	165,960	
Total Taxes & Excises		12,287,949
Department Revenue		
Animal Control	0	
Board of Health	55,951	
Town Clerk	45,631	
Library	540	
Police	21,161	
Fire	16,413	
Ambulance	645,165	
Wire	34,445	
Building	35,135	
Tax Collector Fees	28,825	
Sealer WM	3,538	
Cemetery Receipts	18,702	
Conservation/Misc DPW	18	
Selectmen	16,051	
DPW Permits	150	
Rentals	81,396	
Parking Fines	14,110	
Investment Income	11,952	
Medicare	0	
Court Fines	16,753	
Miscellaneous	15,795	
Retirement	23,673	
CDBG	42,311	
Veteran's District	30,802	
Total Departmental Revenue		1,158,517

State Revenue		
Abatements - Vets, Blind, Surv.	61,305	
Additional Assistance General		
Lottery	2,292,208	
Veterans Benefits	115,452	
Reimbursement of Taxes - State Land	56,018	
Urban Redevelopment	33,949	
Library	17,285	
Assessments	(74,817)	
Total State Revenue		2,501,400
Transfers from Other Funds		
Special Revenue Funds	337,080	
Trust Funds	35,000	
Water Enterprise	153,165	
Sewer Enterprise	153,165	
Transfer Enterprise	32,082	
Total From Other Funds		710,492
Total General Fund Revenue		16,658,358

Town of Athol
Expense to Budget
July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

Group	Department	Budget	Expended	Ending Balance
FINANCE				
	Finance Committee	126,200.00	101,682.26	24,517.74
	Accounting	107,215.00	107,215.00	0.00
	Assessor	113,566.00	113,566.00	0.00
	Treasurer/Collector	4,091,584.00	4,091,484.00	100.00
		4,438,565.00	4,413,947.26	24,617.74
PUBLIC SAFETY				
	Police	1,694,632.00	1,693,276.00	1,356.00
	Fire	1,695,530.00	1,694,377.00	1,153.00
	Building Department	176,016.00	127,316.00	48,700.00
	Wiring Inspector	28,013.00	28,013.00	0.00
	Sealer Weights Meas.	7,485.00	7,485.00	0.00
	Animal Control			0.00
	Board of Health	104,958.00	104,958.00	0.00
		3,706,634.00	3,655,425.00	51,209.00
PUBLIC SERVICE				
	Selectmen	593,397.00	578,986.00	14,411.00
	Town Manager	114,529.00	114,139.00	390.00
	Capital Planning Com	1,020.00	1,020.00	0.00
	Town Clerk	131,038.00	131,038.00	0.00
	Elect / Registration	20,302.00	20,302.00	0.00
	Conservation Comm	20,200.00	11,421.00	8,779.00
	Planning Board	1,800.00	1,800.00	0.00
	Zoning Board	2,230.00	2,230.00	0.00
	Planner	86,208.00	83,642.00	2,566.00
	Memorial Hall	83,643.00	83,643.00	0.00
	Professional Services	179,827.00	170,215.00	9,612.00
	Council on Aging	138,111.00	138,111.00	0.00
	Veterans Department	237,150.00	237,150.00	0.00
	Library	454,885.00	454,885.00	0.00
	Parking Clerk	10,175.00	10,175.00	0.00
	Recreation	29,344.00	29,344.00	0.00
	Beaches	23,639.00	23,639.00	0.00
		2,127,498.00	2,091,740.00	35,758.00

PUBLIC WORKS

DPW Administration	198,529.00	188,529.00	10,000.00
Highway Department	1,034,467.00	1,051,743.00	(17,276.00)
Cemetery	306,769.00	288,108.00	18,661.00
	1,539,765.00	1,528,380.00	11,385.00

NOTE: Prior year holdover amounts included in budgeted figures.

OTHER

Retirement	1,373,233.00	1,373,233.00	0.00
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SCHOOL

ARRSD	3,756,220.00	3,756,220.00	0.00
Vocational	262,246.00	262,246.00	0.00
	4,018,466.00	4,018,466.00	0.00

ASSESSMENTS

Air Pollution Control	2,828.00	2,828.00	0.00
Franklin RTA	52,593.00	52,593.00	0.00
RMV Non-Renewal	25,537.00	25,537.00	0.00
	80,958.00	80,958.00	0.00

TOTAL OPERATIONAL SPENDING	17,285,119.00	17,162,149.26	122,969.74
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ARTICLES/HOLDOVERS

Description	Amount	
FY07 Capital Plan	0.00	
FY08 Capital Plan	0.00	
FY09 Capital Plan	8,511.73	
FY10 Capital Plan	3,000.00	
FY11 Capital Plan	1,431.00	
FY12 Capital Plan	59,616.11	
FY13 Capital Plan	256,243.85	
FY14 Capital Plan	127,547.43	
		456,350.12
Demolish Buildings	27,350.00	
Secure Buildings	21,349.40	
Internet Wiring	8,032.00	
EMT Training	1,152.25	
Mark/Sale of Timber	8,554.98	
Easement Cass Mead	10,000.00	
DEP Phase 1 Site Inv	18,638.10	
BOS Supplies etc.	14,411.13	
T Mgr/EDIC	390.00	
Coll/Treas Health Ins	100.10	
Prof Serv Phone Legal	1,580.32	

	Police Gas/Supplies		1,356.34
	ConComm Supplies		224.00
	Cemetery Supplies		23.16

113,161.78

Sewer Fund

	Holdover		3,061.28
	Improve WPS & Treatment Plant		17,407.21
	STP Vehicle		4,010.36
	FY12 Capital		26,920.40
	FY13 Capital		25,000.00
	FY14 Capital		25,000.00
	FY14 Replace UV Lamp		20,000.00

121,399.25

Water Fund

	Water Holdover		27,672.06
	FY10 Capital		15,135.20
	FY12 Capital		8,157.33
	FY13 Capital		25,000.00
	FY14 Capital		25,000.00

100,964.59

Transfer Station

	Supplies		120.01
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120.01

791,995.75

**Water Enterprise
Income Statement
July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014**

Receipts			Budget	Actual	Variance
	Water Charges/Service		1,076,223	1,072,842	(3,381)
	Water Interest		5,000	13,792	8,792
	Sale of Inventory				0
	Waer Acct Charge		81,650	75,239	(6,411)
	Water Liens to Taxes			50	50
	Miscellaneous Revenue			3,268	3,268
	Total Water Revenue		1,162,873	1,165,191	2,318

Expenses					
	Operational Expenses		795,948	657,501	138,447
	Debt		213,910	213,908	2
	Health Insurance		55,365	55,365	0
	Overhead		97,800	97,800	0
	Total Water Expenses		1,163,023	1,024,574	138,449

**Sewer Enterprise
Income Statement
July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014**

Receipts			Budget	Actual	Variance
	Sewer Charges/Service		1,313,505	1,250,389	(63,116)
	Sewer Interest		4,000	16,630	12,630
	Sewer Acct Charge		68,950	65,147	(3,803)
	Reserve for Sewer Loan				0
	Retained Earnings for Expenses				0
	Sale of Inventory				0
	Total Sewer Revenue		1,386,455	1,332,166	(54,289)

Expenses					
	Operational Expenses		858,016	766,604	91,412
	Debt		375,274	374,317	957
	Health Insurance		55,365	55,365	0
	Overhead		97,800	97,800	0
	Total Sewer Expenses		1,386,455	1,294,086	92,369

Transfer Station Enterprise
Income Statement
July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

Receipts				Budget	Actual	Variance
	Transfer Receipts			405,532	338,821	(66,711)
	Total Transfer Revenue			405,532	338,821	(66,711)

Expenses						
	Operational Expenses			348,281	279,579	68,702
	Debt			39,797	39,797	0
	Health Insurance			18,455	18,455	0
	Overhead			13,627	13,627	0
	Total Transfer Expenses			420,160	351,458	68,702

Special Revenue Fund Grants - Federal Grants

Community Block Grant		N Central Tech Assist Grant	
Beginning Balance	267,740	Beginning Balance	354
Revenues	382,078	Revenues	0
Expenditures	390,834	Expenditures	
Ending Balance	258,984	Ending Balance	354
COPS More Grant		Lake Ellis Dam Grant	
Beginning Balance	5,353	Beginning Balance	31,210
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	
Ending Balance	5,353	Ending Balance	31,210
LLEGD 2004			
Beginning Balance	1,617	Storm Reimbursements	
Revenues	0	Beginning Balance	0
Expenditures	0	Revenues	32,699
Ending Balance	1,617	Expenditures	0
		Ending Balance	32,699
Byrne Youth Employment Grant			
Beginning Balance	1,971	Total Federal Grants	
Revenues	0	Beginning Balance	338,305
Expenditures	0	Revenues	414,842
Ending Balance	1,971	Expenditures	420,664
		Ending Balance	332,483
Library Planning Grant			
Beginning Balance	230		
Revenues	65		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	295		
Sanitary Landfill Grant			
Beginning Balance	29,830		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	29,830		
Ending Balance	0		

Special Revenue Fund Grants - State Grants

Council on Aging Sprague		MA Forest Stewardship Grant	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	0	Revenues	500
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	0	Ending Balance	500
Council on Aging Formula		Fed Bio Terrorism Grant	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	288
Revenues	21,783	Revenues	1,200
Expenditures	13,725	Expenditures	1,197
Ending Balance	8,058	Ending Balance	291
Arts Lottery		Homeland Sec Grant	
Beginning Balance	2,258	Beginning Balance	15
Revenues	6,080	Revenues	0
Expenditures	5,474	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	2,864	Ending Balance	15
Big Yellow School Bus		MCOA Grant	
Beginning Balance	200	Beginning Balance	2,086
Revenues	200	Revenues	0
Expenditures	200	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	200	Ending Balance	2,086
Comm Septic System		Composting Grant	
Beginning Balance	1,405	Beginning Balance	125
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,405	Ending Balance	125
43D Expedite Grant		HomeCorps Comm Rest Grant	
Beginning Balance	6,703	Beginning Balance	75,000
Revenues	0	Revenues	75,000
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	10,580
Ending Balance	6,703	Ending Balance	139,420
Council on Aging Boyton Fund		DARE Grant	
Beginning Balance	674	Beginning Balance	4,307
Revenues	2,439	Revenues	0
Expenditures	1,387	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,726	Ending Balance	4,307

Police VOWA Grant		Library Grant	
Beginning Balance	293	Beginning Balance	3,177
Revenues	0	Revenues	17,285
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	15,471
Ending Balance	293	Ending Balance	4,991
Violence Provention in Schools		MLBC Construction Lib Exp Grant	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	1,776,925
Revenues	18,089	Revenues	1,892,396
Expenditures	18,089	Expenditures	3,489,068
Ending Balance	0	Ending Balance	180,253
Election & Regis Reimb		Fire SAFE Grant	
Beginning Balance	376	Beginning Balance	3,747
Revenues	0	Revenues	4,086
Expenditures	139	Expenditures	5,091
Ending Balance	237	Ending Balance	2,742
Clean Energy CHC		MassWorks Travers St Project	
Beginning Balance	346	Beginning Balance	38,264
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	38,264
Ending Balance	346	Ending Balance	0
Health Skin Cancer Grant		Emergency Planning Grant	
Beginning Balance	683	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	0	Revenues	5,814
Expenditures	249	Expenditures	5,814
Ending Balance	434	Ending Balance	0
Pothole Grant		Energy Audit/Rocket Grant	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	2,179
Revenues	70,500	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	70,500	Ending Balance	2,179
Health DPW Supplies Grant		Emergency Mgt Planning Grant	
Beginning Balance	1	Beginning Balance	316
Revenues	0	Revenues	698
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1	Ending Balance	1,014
Green Energy Grant		SMRP Small Scale Grant Trn St	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	280	Revenues	750
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	750
Ending Balance	280	Ending Balance	0

DOER Library Green Comm Grant		Total State Grants	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	1,919,368
Revenues	58,087	Revenues	2,175,187
Expenditures	23,068	Expenditures	3,628,566
Ending Balance	35,019	Ending Balance	465,989

Special Revenue Funds - Other

Council on Aging Special		Library Memorial Book	
Beginning Balance	33,160	Beginning Balance	927
Revenues	6,488	Revenues	1,045
Expenditures	3,678	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	35,970	Ending Balance	1,972
Council on Aging Parmenter		Mass. Decon Unit Training	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	1,539
Revenues	2,000	Revenues	0
Expenditures	1,850	Expenditures	1,539
Ending Balance	150	Ending Balance	0
Agriculture Comm Donations		Safety Education Fund	
Beginning Balance	1,355	Beginning Balance	322
Revenues	1,893	Revenues	0
Expenditures	1,861	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,387	Ending Balance	322
Bunzl Extr/Construct Dynamics		DARE Donation Account	
Beginning Balance	889	Beginning Balance	1,292
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	72
Ending Balance	889	Ending Balance	1,220
Building and Fire Dept Fines		Veterans Park Donations	
Beginning Balance	1,724	Beginning Balance	500
Revenues	200	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,924	Ending Balance	500
Drug Forfeiture		Teen Task Force Donations	
Beginning Balance	2,839	Beginning Balance	1,398
Revenues	2,711	Revenues	849
Expenditures	2,532	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	3,018	Ending Balance	2,247
Parmenter Large Print		Silver Lake School Donations	
Beginning Balance	0	Beginning Balance	112
Revenues	582	Revenues	0
Expenditures	582	Expenditures	112
Ending Balance	0	Ending Balance	0

Care of Animals Donations		Memorial Hall Revitalization	
Beginning Balance	4,587	Beginning Balance	4,977
Revenues	14,296	Revenues	0
Expenditures	14,344	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	4,539	Ending Balance	4,977
Shade Tree Comm Donations		Fire Dept Donations	
Beginning Balance	1,105	Beginning Balance	1,706
Revenues	253	Revenues	1,125
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	200
Ending Balance	1,358	Ending Balance	2,631
Holiday Decorations Donations		Friends of Library Donation	
Beginning Balance	35	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	1,356	Revenues	5,000
Expenditures	1,391	Expenditures	1,531
Ending Balance	0	Ending Balance	3,469
ACO Van/Equip Donations		Community Safty Day/Police	
Beginning Balance	1,090	Beginning Balance	525
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,090	Ending Balance	525
Bearsden Donations		Police Donations	
Beginning Balance	115	Beginning Balance	2,051
Revenues	35	Revenues	1,000
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	
Ending Balance	150	Ending Balance	3,051
Silver Lake Lights Donations		Retail Mgt Devel for MarketBasket	
Beginning Balance	1,172	Beginning Balance	15,069
Revenues	0	Revenues	75
Expenditures	58	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,114	Ending Balance	15,144
ACO Facility Donations		Expedited Permitting 43D MarketBasket	
Beginning Balance	190	Beginning Balance	29,795
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	190	Ending Balance	29,795
Recreation Comm Donations		Total Other Funds	
Beginning Balance	13,026	Beginning Balance	121,500
Revenues	2,774	Revenues	41,682
Expenditures	2,017	Expenditures	31,767
Ending Balance	13,783	Ending Balance	131,415

Revolving Funds

Ch 535 Insurance Reimbursement	
Beginning Balance	23,219
Revenues	30,297
Expenditures	30,707
Ending Balance	22,809
Conservation Fund	
Beginning Balance	9,624
Revenues	262
Expenditures	3,363
Ending Balance	6,523
Total Revolving Funds	
Beginning Balance	32,843
Revenues	30,559
Expenditures	34,070
Ending Balance	29,332

Receipts Reserved for Appropriation

Equipment Rental	
Beginning Balance	3,908
Revenues	540
Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	4,448
Parking Meter	
Beginning Balance	68,983
Revenues	16,157
Expenditures	15,000
Ending Balance	70,140
Sale of Cemetery Lots	
Beginning Balance	1,225
Revenues	465
Expenditures	500
Ending Balance	1,190
Reserve for Ambulance Expenses	
Beginning Balance	271,110
Revenues	64,517
Expenditures	50,064
Ending Balance	285,563
Conservation Fund	
Beginning Balance	26,109
Revenues	0
Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	26,109
Sale of Real Estate Proceeds	
Beginning Balance	294,599
Revenues	0
Expenditures	294,599
Ending Balance	0
Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Summary	
Beginning Balance	665,934
Revenues	81,679
Expenditures	360,163
Ending Balance	387,450

Agency and Trust

Plumbing Inspector Fees		Septic Revenue	
Beginning Balance	3,802	Beginning Balance	953
Revenues	10,450	Revenues	0
Expenditures	7,850	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	6,402	Ending Balance	953
Gas Inspector Fees		Trench Permitting Account	
Beginning Balance	3,868	Beginning Balance	390
Revenues	3,540	Revenues	0
Expenditures	2,580	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	4,828	Ending Balance	390
Tailings		Compost Bins	
Beginning Balance	7,717	Beginning Balance	35
Revenues	0	Revenues	945
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	7,717	Ending Balance	980
Div of Fish and Wildlife		Building Dept Outside Detail	
Beginning Balance	1,839	Beginning Balance	816
Revenues	0	Revenues	465
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	393
Ending Balance	1,839	Ending Balance	888
Ch 773 - Police Outside Detail		Conservation Maps	
Beginning Balance	30,365	Beginning Balance	1,239
Revenues	184,341	Revenues	102
Expenditures	177,737	Expenditures	28
Ending Balance	36,969	Ending Balance	1,313
Deputy Tax Collector		Health Vaccines	
Beginning Balance	36	Beginning Balance	3,628
Revenues	38,479	Revenues	362
Expenditures	38,479	Expenditures	2,478
Ending Balance	36	Ending Balance	1,512
Fire Arm & Licenses		Fire Dept Outside Details	
Beginning Balance	15,600	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	17,075	Revenues	46,188
Expenditures	29,787	Expenditures	46,188
Ending Balance	2,888	Ending Balance	0

Recreation Fees			
Beginning Balance	0		
Revenues	4,500		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	4,500		
Canal St Rental Property			
Beginning Balance	8,178		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	8,178		
Agency and Trust			
Beginning Balance	210		
Revenues	119,258		
Expenditures	119,258		
Ending Balance	210		
Agency and Trust Summary			
Beginning Balance	78,676		
Revenues	425,705		
Expenditures	424,778		
Ending Balance	79,603		

**Non-Expendable Trust Funds
Revenue and Expenditures**

Spaight Street School		Craignin Downing	
Beginning Balance	1,000	Beginning Balance	6,700
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,000	Ending Balance	6,700
Charles Cooke School		Richard B Ellis Memorial	
Beginning Balance	3,000	Beginning Balance	1,002
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	3,000	Ending Balance	1,002
Gertrude M Hale Scholarship		Barbara Dexter	
Beginning Balance	102,620	Beginning Balance	500
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	102,620	Ending Balance	500
Lyman Ward School		Dr. Talcott Memorial	
Beginning Balance	1,000	Beginning Balance	565
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,000	Ending Balance	565
Edwin C Hale Library		Martha Talcott Memorial	
Beginning Balance	102,221	Beginning Balance	4,375
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	102,221	Ending Balance	4,375
Kate Fay Library		Russell Field Library	
Beginning Balance	26,000	Beginning Balance	1,000
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	26,000	Ending Balance	1,000
Fay Johnstone Library		Talcott Historical	
Beginning Balance	500	Beginning Balance	153
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	500	Ending Balance	153

Adele Parmenter		Waterman Flower	
Beginning Balance	500	Beginning Balance	300
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	500	Ending Balance	300
Millers River Translator		Wilder Cemetery Flower	
Beginning Balance	226	Beginning Balance	300
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	226	Ending Balance	300
Gladys Green Library		White Taylor Boland Flower	
Beginning Balance	225	Beginning Balance	150
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	225	Ending Balance	150
Herbert L Bartlet Library		Kate Fay Flower	
Beginning Balance	1,000	Beginning Balance	400
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	1,000	Ending Balance	400
Helen Aiken Library		Allen Warrell Flower	
Beginning Balance	33	Beginning Balance	500
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	33	Ending Balance	500
A Harding Library		Charles Everett Flower	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	500
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	500
Marion Crane Flower		HC Morse Flower	
Beginning Balance	500	Beginning Balance	300
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	500	Ending Balance	300
Morse Davidson Flower		Marie/Virginia Phillips Flower	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	300
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	300

Carrie/Flora Hale Flower		G/R Sprague Charity Fund	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	3,000
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	3,000
Winnie Burnham Flower		Cemetery General Fund	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	545,658
Revenues	0	Revenues	9,610
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	555,268
Albert Drury Flower		Coffin Fund	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	300
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	300
Wiley Flower		Gamon Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	500
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	500
Elizabeth Cropper Flower		Melvina Lukus Library	
Beginning Balance	300	Beginning Balance	4,684
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	300	Ending Balance	4,684
Marjorie Hill Flower		Ruby Cook Library Trust Fund	
Beginning Balance	500	Beginning Balance	32,220
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	500	Ending Balance	32,220
Nellie Byron Fountain		McGuirk Floer Fund	
Beginning Balance	4,452	Beginning Balance	300
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	4,452	Ending Balance	300
Cemetery Tomb Fund		Johnson Library Trust	
Beginning Balance	2,000	Beginning Balance	960
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	0	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	2,000	Ending Balance	960

MaGranis/Davenport Trust			
Beginning Balance	10,000	Ben & Margaret Feldman	
Revenues	0	Beginning Balance	325
Expenditures	0	Revenues	0
Ending Balance	10,000	Expenditures	0
		Ending Balance	325
Lillian Plotkin Scholarship Fund			
Beginning Balance	10,000	Non-Expendable Trust Summary	
Revenues	0	Beginning Balance	1,529,312
Expenditures	0	Revenues	9,610
Ending Balance	10,000	Expenditures	0
		Ending Balance	1,538,922
Amelia Gibson Library Trust			
Beginning Balance	78,261		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	78,261		
Nye Library Trust			
Beginning Balance	2,000		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	2,000		
Frawley Flower			
Beginning Balance	300		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	300		
Thomas Flower			
Beginning Balance	325		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	325		
H and C Brouillet Library Trust			
Beginning Balance	5,000		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	5,000		
C Brouillet Apprenticeship			
Beginning Balance	570,557		
Revenues	0		
Expenditures	0		
Ending Balance	570,557		

**Expendable Trust Funds
Revenue and Expenditures**

Spaight Street School		Craignin Downing	
Beginning Balance	441	Beginning Balance	1,101
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	51	Expenditures	51
Ending Balance	390	Ending Balance	1,050
Charles Cooke School		Richard B Ellis Memorial	
Beginning Balance	578	Beginning Balance	355
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	123	Expenditures	9
Ending Balance	455	Ending Balance	346
Gertrude M Hale Scholarship		Barbara Dexter	
Beginning Balance	3,727	Beginning Balance	998
Revenues	100	Revenues	0
Expenditures	3,794	Expenditures	10
Ending Balance	33	Ending Balance	988
Lyman Ward School		Dr. Talcott Memorial	
Beginning Balance	3,665	Beginning Balance	761
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	30	Expenditures	8
Ending Balance	3,635	Ending Balance	753
Edwin C Hale Library		Martha Talcott Memorial	
Beginning Balance	9,064	Beginning Balance	1,350
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	726	Expenditures	37
Ending Balance	8,338	Ending Balance	1,313
Kate Fay Library		Russell Field Library	
Beginning Balance	5,558	Beginning Balance	2,956
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	205	Expenditures	2,213
Ending Balance	5,353	Ending Balance	743
Fay Johnstone Library		Talcott Historical	
Beginning Balance	1,080	Beginning Balance	1,166
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	10	Expenditures	9
Ending Balance	1,070	Ending Balance	1,157

Adele Parmenter		Waterman Flower	
Beginning Balance	796	Beginning Balance	1,114
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	9	Expenditures	44
Ending Balance	787	Ending Balance	1,070
Millers River Translator		Wilder Cemetery Flower	
Beginning Balance	1,676	Beginning Balance	651
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	12	Expenditures	41
Ending Balance	1,664	Ending Balance	610
Gladys Green Library		White Taylor Boland Flower	
Beginning Balance	2,038	Beginning Balance	393
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	14	Expenditures	19
Ending Balance	2,024	Ending Balance	374
Herbert L Bartlet Library		Kate Fay Flower	
Beginning Balance	2,542	Beginning Balance	1,104
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	23	Expenditures	59
Ending Balance	2,519	Ending Balance	1,045
Helen Aiken Library		Allen Warrell Flower	
Beginning Balance	483	Beginning Balance	1,445
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	4	Expenditures	70
Ending Balance	479	Ending Balance	1,375
A Harding Library		Charles Everett Flower	
Beginning Balance	2,683	Beginning Balance	2,229
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	20	Expenditures	60
Ending Balance	2,663	Ending Balance	2,169
Marion Crane Flower		HC Morse Flower	
Beginning Balance	1,575	Beginning Balance	499
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	59	Expenditures	40
Ending Balance	1,516	Ending Balance	459
Morse Davidson Flower		Marie/Virginia Phillips Flower	
Beginning Balance	883	Beginning Balance	712
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	43	Expenditures	42
Ending Balance	840	Ending Balance	670

Carrie/Flora Hale Flower		G/R Sprague Charity Fund	
Beginning Balance	459	Beginning Balance	32,092
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	39	Expenditures	229
Ending Balance	420	Ending Balance	31,863
Winnie Burnham Flower		Cemetery General Fund	
Beginning Balance	509	Beginning Balance	135,954
Revenues	0	Revenues	310
Expenditures	40	Expenditures	40,458
Ending Balance	469	Ending Balance	95,806
Albert Drury Flower		Coffin Fund	
Beginning Balance	330	Beginning Balance	141
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	24	Expenditures	22
Ending Balance	306	Ending Balance	119
Willey Flower		Gamon Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	149	Beginning Balance	399
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	3	Expenditures	29
Ending Balance	146	Ending Balance	370
Elizabeth Cropper Flower		Melvina Lukus Library	
Beginning Balance	142	Beginning Balance	886
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	23	Expenditures	36
Ending Balance	119	Ending Balance	850
Marjorie Hill Flower		Ruby Cook Library Trust Fund	
Beginning Balance	260	Beginning Balance	4,227
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	35	Expenditures	237
Ending Balance	225	Ending Balance	3,990
Nellie Byron Fountain		McGuirk Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	22,693	Beginning Balance	264
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	1,825	Expenditures	3
Ending Balance	20,868	Ending Balance	261
Cemetery Tomb Fund		Johnson Library Trust	
Beginning Balance	29,245	Beginning Balance	596
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	289	Expenditures	10
Ending Balance	28,956	Ending Balance	586

MaGranis/Davenport Trust		Library Book Fund	
Beginning Balance	1,298	Beginning Balance	156
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	74	Expenditures	1
Ending Balance	1,224	Ending Balance	155
Lillian Plotkin Scholarship Fund		Stabilization	
Beginning Balance	768	Beginning Balance	683,833
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	571	Expenditures	4,487
Ending Balance	197	Ending Balance	679,346
Amelia Gibson Library Trust		Conservation Fund	
Beginning Balance	9,516	Beginning Balance	1,979
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	572	Expenditures	13
Ending Balance	8,944	Ending Balance	1,966
Nye Library Trust		Davenport Trust	
Beginning Balance	998	Beginning Balance	2,109
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	19	Expenditures	14
Ending Balance	979	Ending Balance	2,095
Frawley Flower		Lake Park Fund	
Beginning Balance	111	Beginning Balance	11,844
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	3	Expenditures	77
Ending Balance	108	Ending Balance	11,767
Thomas Flower		Charles Starrett	
Beginning Balance	10	Beginning Balance	17,542
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	14	Expenditures	114
Ending Balance	(4)	Ending Balance	17,428
H and C Brouillet Library Trust		Library Capital Improvement	
Beginning Balance	1,399	Beginning Balance	23,969
Revenues	0	Revenues	0
Expenditures	42	Expenditures	21,859
Ending Balance	1,357	Ending Balance	2,110
C Brouillet Apprenticeship		Bassett Trust for Fire	
Beginning Balance	16,052	Beginning Balance	35,953
Revenues	5,767	Revenues	23,358
Expenditures	3,996	Expenditures	1,062
Ending Balance	17,823	Ending Balance	58,249

Bassett Trust for Police		Ben & Margaret Feldman	
Beginning Balance	51,259	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	277	Revenues	0
Expenditures	23,641	Expenditures	1
Ending Balance	27,895	Ending Balance	(1)
Insurance Stabilization Fund		M G Foster Mann Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	25,024	Beginning Balance	0
Revenues	0	Revenues	5000
Expenditures	163	Expenditures	0
Ending Balance	24,861	Ending Balance	5000
Non-Expendable Trust Summary			
Beginning Balance	1,165,789		
Revenues	34,812		
Expenditures	107,860		
Ending Balance	1,092,741		

Town of Athol
Balance Sheet
Fiscal Year 2014

Account	Description General Fund	Balance
	Assets	
0100-000-1040	Cash	2,061,756.35
0100-000-1240	Title V Betterments Current Year	4,863.23
0100-000-1241	Tax Title Account	463,660.39
0100-000-1246	Tax Title Possessions	98,867.81
0100-000-1291	Forest Product Excise	0.00
0100-000-1311	Title V Betterment	30,006.57
0100-000-1341	Accounts Receivable - Cemetery	6,824.50
0100-000-1342	Accounts Receivable - Veterans	120,538.05
0100-000-1345	Accounts Receivable - Ambulance	1,406,602.82
0100-000-1346	Account Receivable - Equestrian Park	35,000.00
0100-085-1220	Deferred Taxes	20,171.64
0100-089-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise Prior Years	111,380.62
0100-205-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2005	10,424.22
0100-206-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2006	8,886.26
0100-207-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2007	10,954.69
0100-208-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2008	8,140.04
0100-209-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2009	6,367.16
0100-200-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2010	7,500.64
0100-211-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2011	12,370.56
0100-212-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2012	18,319.76
0100-213-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2013	37,413.41
0100-214-1260	Motor Vehicle Excise - 2014	88,139.56
0100-205-1210	Personal Property - 2005	353.73
0100-206-1210	Personal Property - 2006	321.18
0100-207-1210	Personal Property - 2007	441.79
0100-208-1210	Personal Property - 2008	1,091.86
0100-209-1210	Personal Property - 2009	629.60
0100-200-1210	Personal Property - 2010	1,497.96
0100-211-1210	Personal Property - 2011	946.75
0100-212-1210	Personal Property - 2012	2,796.04
0100-213-1210	Personal Property - 2013	2,413.69
0100-214-1210	Personal Property - 2014	3,838.72
0100-215-1210	Personal Property - 2015	(61.29)
0100-205-1220	Real Estate - 2005	149.02
0100-206-1220	Real Estate - 2006	1,294.33
0100-207-1220	Real Estate - 2007	336.35
0100-208-1220	Real Estate - 2008	(73.07)
0100-209-1220	Real Estate - 2009	1,892.51
0100-200-1220	Real Estate - 2010	4,281.94
0100-211-1220	Real Estate - 2011	26,672.87
0100-212-1220	Real Estate - 2012	90,091.21
0100-213-1220	Real Estate - 2013	167,695.01
0100-214-1220	Real Estate - 2014	483,715.61
0100-215-1220	Real Estate - 2015	(324.83)
0100-205-1231	Overlay 05	(515.04)
0100-206-1230	Overlay 06	(1,666.54)

0100-207-1230	Overlay 07	(778.14)
0100-208-1230	Overlay 08	(1,091.86)
0100-209-1230	Overlay 09	(2,641.02)
0100-200-1230	Overlay 10	(6,500.14)
0100-211-1230	Overlay 11	(65,439.17)
0100-212-1230	Overlay 12	(69,677.64)
0100-213-1230	Overlay 13	(51,875.23)
0100-214-1230	Overlay 14	(42,823.93)
	Total Assets	<u>5,115,180.55</u>

General Fund

	Liability & Equity	
0100-000-2120	Federal Withholding Deduction	0.00
0100-000-2130	State Withholding Deduction	(1,338.16)
0100-000-2140	Contrib Retire System	(4,277.87)
0100-000-2150	Employee Deductions	(10,144.27)
0100-000-2160	FICA Deductions	(428.35)
0100-000-2611	Personal Property	0.00
0100-000-2621	Real Estate	567,163.91
0100-000-2623	Tax Title Revenue	562,528.20
0100-000-2631	Motor Vehicle Revenue	319,896.92
0100-000-2644	Forest Products Revenue	0.00
0100-000-2651	Title V Betterment Revenue	34,869.80
0100-000-2655	Departmental Revenue	1,568,965.37
0100-000-3590	Undesignated Balance	494,654.34
0100-000-3592	Fund Rsvd Expenditures	767,329.99
0100-000-3593	Reserve for Approp. Deficit (S/lce)	(16,776.04)
0100-000-3594	Reserve for Encumbrance	739,697.95
0100-000-3595	Reserve for Other	0.00
0100-000-3729	Reserve for Debt Service Library Expansion	93,038.76
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>5,115,180.55</u>

Community Block Grant

	Assets	
2100-000-1045	Cash	<u>258,983.53</u>
	Liability & Equity	
2100-000-3511	Community Block Grant	56,960.71
2100-000-3515	North Quabbin Loan Revolving	196,822.69
2100-207-3513	Economic Development - N Quabbin	0.00
2100-209-3512	FY 2009 Housing Rehab	0.00
2100-200-3512	FY 2010 Housing Rehab	0.00
2100-212-3511	FY12 Infrastructure	187.13
2100-212-3512	FY12 Housing Rehab	5,013.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>258,983.53</u>

Federal Grants

	Assets	
2200-000-1040	Federal Grants Cash	73,501.02
	Total Assets	<u>73,501.02</u>

	Liability & Equity	
2200-000-3301	Storm Reimbursements	32,699.77
2200-000-3513	Cops More Grant	5,353.39
2200-000-3517	Police LLEGB Grant	1,617.06
2200-000-3518	Byrne Youth Employment Project Grant	1,971.14
2200-000-3522	Library Planning Grant	294.90
2200-000-3530	Sanitary Landfill Grant	0.00
2200-000-3537	North Central Technical Assistance Grant	354.37
2200-000-3538	Lake Ellis Dam Grant	31,210.39
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>73,501.02</u>

Water Fund

	Assets	
2300-000-1040	Water Cash	530,743.07
2300-000-1311	Water Rates	76,937.36
2300-000-1312	Water Services	9,567.69
2300-000-1314	Water Account Charges	4,298.63
2300-000-1316	Water Late Fees	325.00
2300-000-1331	Water Liens to Taxes	(370.81)
		<u>621,500.94</u>
	Liability & Equity	
2300-000-2653	Water Deferred Revenue	90,757.87
2300-000-2731	Temp Loan Replace Meters FY12 FTM8	
2300-000-3590	Undesignated Balance	329,778.48
2300-000-3592	Reserve for Capital Expenditures	
2300-000-3593	Reserve for Encumbrance	100,964.59
2300-000-3594	Reserve for Expenditures	100,000.00
2300-000-3731	Replace Meters FY12 FTM8	
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>621,500.94</u>

Sewer Fund

	Assets	
2400-000-1040	Cash	414,166.80
2400-000-1313	Sewer Rates	104,080.13
2400-000-1314	Sewer Services	(387.55)
2400-000-1315	Sewer Account Charges	4,113.70
	Total Assets	<u>521,973.08</u>
	Liability & Equity	
2400-000-2653	Sewer Deferred Revenue	107,806.28
2400-000-3590	Undesignated Balance	147,767.55
2400-000-3591	Reserve for Sewer Treatment Loan	0.00
2400-000-3592	Reserve for Capital Expenditures	0.00
2400-000-3593	Reserve for Encumbrance	121,399.25
2400-000-3594	Reserve for Expenditures	145,000.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>521,973.08</u>

State Grants

	Assets	
2500-000-1040	Cash	464,682.86
2500-000-1705	A/R - Emergency Planning Grant	556.86
2500-000-1706	A/R - Small Scale Grant	750.00
	Total Assets	<u>465,989.72</u>
	Liability & Equity	
2500-000-3280	COA Sprague	0.00
2500-000-3282	COA Formula	8,057.49
2500-000-3284	Arts Lottery	2,864.41
2500-000-3285	Big Yellow School Bus Grant	200.00
2500-000-3287	Community Septic Grant	1,405.00
2500-000-3288	43D Expedite Permit Grant	6,703.08
2500-000-3289	COA Boyton Fund	1,726.36
2500-000-3290	Federal Bio-Terrorism Grant	290.37
2500-000-3591	Homeland Sec Grant Citizens Corp	15.10
2500-000-3292	MCOA Grant 3.11	2,086.58
2500-000-3513	Composting Grant	125.00
2500-000-3515	Police DARE	4,307.28
2500-000-3516	Police VOWA	292.71
2500-000-3517	Police Dispatch Grant	0.00
2500-000-3520	MET Grant - Phillipston Dam	0.00
2500-000-3521	Election & Registration Reimb.	236.47
2500-000-3522	Clean Energy CHC Matching Grant	345.54
2500-000-3523	BOH Skin Cancer Grant	434.15
2500-000-3525	Lead Gap Funding Grant	0.00
2500-000-3526	B Health Supplies Grant	0.33
2500-000-3528	Library Grant	4,990.94
2500-000-3530	MLBC Construction Grant Lib Exp Project	180,253.18
2500-000-3534	Fire S.A.F.E. Grant	2,742.47
2500-000-3535	Ambulance Task Force Grant	0.00
2500-000-3538	Emergency Planning Committee Grant	0.00
2500-000-3539	Energy Audit Program Grant	2,179.00
2500-000-3540	Emergency Mgt Planning Grant (Fire)	1,014.19
2500-000-3542	Green Energy Grant Q2 FY11	280.04
2500-000-3543	MA Forest Stewardship Plan 1.12	500.00
2500-212-3511	Massworks Traverse St Project	0.00
2500-213-3280	Homecorps Comm Restoration Grant	139,420.49
2500-214-3280	Pothole Grant FY14	70,500.00
2500-214-3543	DOER Library Green Comm Grant	35,019.54
2500-214-3512	SMRP Small Scale Grant Tran St	0.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>465,989.72</u>

Receipts Reserved for Appropriation

	Assets	
2600-000-1040	Cash	386,959.53
2600-000-1344	Equipment Rental	335.00
	Total Assets	<u>387,294.53</u>

	Liability & Equity	
2600-000-2656	Deferred Revenue - Equip. Rent.	588.00
2600-000-3286	Equipment Rental	3,704.00
2600-000-3301	Parking Meter Accounts	70,140.62
2600-000-3303	Sale of Cemetery Lots	1,190.00
2600-000-3305	Conservation Fund	26,109.25
2600-000-3307	Reserve for Ambulance	285,562.66
2600-000-3308	Sale of Real Estate Proceeds	0.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>387,294.53</u>

Revolving Funds

	Assets	
2700-000-1040	Cash	29,332.26
	Liability & Equity	
2700-000-3285	Chapter 525 Insurance	22,809.47
2700-000-3305	Conservation Commission	6,522.79
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>29,332.26</u>

Special Revenues

	Assets	
2800-000-1040	Cash	131,415.12
	Liability & Equity	
2800-000-3281	Council on Aging Special	35,969.08
2800-000-3283	Council Aging Parmenter	150.00
2800-000-3284	Agriculture Comm Donations	1,387.32
2800-000-3285	Bunzel Extrusion	889.05
2800-000-3287	Retail Mgt & Devel for Marketbasket	15,144.41
2800-000-3288	Expedited Permit 43D Market Basket	29,795.00
2800-000-3522	Building Dept. / Fire Dept. Fines	1,924.00
2800-000-3523	Drug Forfeiture Account	3,017.90
2800-000-3524	Parmenter Large Print	0.00
2800-000-3527	Library Memorial Book	1,972.13
2800-000-3528	Friends of Library Donations	3,469.45
2800-000-3529	Mass. Decon Unit Training	
2800-000-3539	Safety Education Fund	321.86
2800-000-3582	DARE Donations	1,219.67
2800-000-3583	Veterans ParkDonations	500.00
2800-000-3584	Teen Task Force	2,247.01
2800-000-3585	Silver Lake School Donations	0.00
2800-000-3587	Care of Animals Donations	4,539.10
2800-000-3588	Shade Tree Commission Donations	1,358.50
2800-000-3589	Holiday Decorations Donations	0.00
2800-000-3590	ACO Van Donations	1,090.00
2800-000-3593	Bearsden Donations	150.00
2800-000-3594	Light Donations - Silver Lake	1,114.79
2800-000-3595	ACO Facility Donations	189.78
2800-000-3596	Recreation Committee	13,782.51
2800-000-3597	Memorial Hall Revitalization	4,976.56
2800-000-3598	Fire Donations	2,630.61

2800-000-3599	Fish Park Donations	
2800-000-4832	Community Safety Day - Police	525.00
2800-000-4834	Police Donations	3,051.38
2800-000-6001	COA Comm Kitchen Donation	0.01
2800-000-6002	COA Kitchen Build Out Donation	
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>131,415.12</u>

Capital Projects

	Assets	
3000-000-1040	Capital Projects Cash	3,396,494.41
3000-000-1726	A/R - Chapter 90	182,947.95
	Total Assets	<u>3,579,442.36</u>
	Liability & Equity	
3000-000-3761	Police Station	2,353.45
3000-000-3762	Repairs to South Street Deck	19,951.25
3000-000-3763	Chapter 90	(111,005.17)
3000-000-3764	Sewer Ejector System	2,632.22
3000-000-3765	Consultant to Upgrade STP	9,734.69
3000-000-3769	Replace Gates	17,606.87
3000-000-3773	Water Inflow / Infiltration	16,781.00
3000-000-3775	Purchase Ladder Truck	0.00
3000-000-3776	Lord Pond Plaza Drainage	6,726.66
3000-000-3777	Senior Center	1,929.98
3000-000-3779	Library Expansion Project FY12	0.00
3000-214-2721	Temp Loan NQ Bus Park Water Ext FY14	3,000,500.40
3000-214-2722	Temp Loan Millers River Park FY14FTM12	280,700.00
3000-214-2734	Temp Loan FY14 Elementary School	2,000,000.00
3000-214-3721	NQ Bus Park Water Ext FY14	(863,251.99)
3000-214-3722	Miller River Park FY14	(80,000.00)
3000-214-3761	Elementary School FY14	(725,217.00)
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>3,579,442.36</u>

Capital Projects - Water

	Assets	
3300-000-1040	Capital Projects Cash	<u>108,005.48</u>
	Liability & Equity	
3300-000-3792	Water Tank	108,005.48
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>108,005.48</u>

Capital Projects - Sewer

	Assets	
3400-000-1040	Sewer Projects Cash	387.69
	Liability & Equity	
3400-000-3766	Reconstruct Sewer Treatment Plant	387.69
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>387.69</u>

Capital Projects - Transfer Station

	Assets	
3500-000-1040	Transfer Station Cash	49,911.66
	Liability & Equity	
3500-000-2734	Temp. Loan - Transfer Station 5/07 (S/T)	
3500-000-3766	Transfer Station Loan	49,911.66
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>49,911.66</u>

Transfer Station

	Assets	
6200-000-1040	Transfer Station Cash	37,311.57
	Liability & Equity	
6200-000-3590	Transfer Station Undesignated	9,881.56
6200-000-3593	Transfer Station Reserve for Encumbrance	27,430.01
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>37,311.57</u>

Non-Expendable Trust Funds

	Assets	
8100-000-1040	Cash	1,538,922.03
	Liability & Equity	
8100-000-3501	Spaight Street School	1,000.00
8100-000-3502	Charles Cooke School	3,000.00
8100-000-3503	Gertrude Hale Scholarship	102,620.66
8100-000-3504	Lyman Ward School	1,000.00
8100-000-3505	Edwin Hale Library	102,220.66
8100-000-3506	Kate Fay Library	26,000.00
8100-000-3507	Fay Johnstone Library	500.00
8100-000-3508	Craigin Downng	6,700.00
8100-000-3509	Richard Ellis Memorial	1,001.50
8100-000-3510	Barbara Dexter	500.00
8100-000-3511	Dr. Talcott Memorial	565.00
8100-000-3512	Martha Talcott Memorial	4,375.07
8100-000-3513	Russell Field Library	1,000.00
8100-000-3514	Talcott Historical	153.00
8100-000-3515	Adele Parmenter	500.00
8100-000-3516	Millers River Translator	226.52
8100-000-3517	Gladys Greene Library	225.00
8100-000-3518	Herb Bartlet Library	1,000.00
8100-000-3520	Helen Aiken Library	33.25
8100-000-3521	A. Harding Library	300.00
8100-000-3522	Marion Crane Flower	500.00
8100-000-3523	Morse Davidson Flower	300.00
8100-000-3524	Waterman Flower	300.00
8100-000-3525	Wilder Cemetery Flower	300.00
8100-000-3526	White Taylor Boland Flower	150.00
8100-000-3527	Kate Fay Flower	400.00
8100-000-3528	Allen Warrell Flower	500.00
8100-000-3529	C. Everett Flower	500.00
8100-000-3530	H.C. Morse Flower	300.00

8100-000-3531	Marie/Virginia Phillips Flower	300.00
8100-000-3532	Carie/Flora Hale Flower	300.00
8100-000-3533	Winnie Burnham Flower	300.00
8100-000-3534	Albert Drury Flower	300.00
8100-000-3535	Willey Flower Fund	300.00
8100-000-3536	Elizabeth Cropper Flower	300.00
8100-000-3537	Marjorie Hill Flower	500.00
8100-000-3538	Nellie Byron Fountain	4,451.96
8100-000-3539	Cemetery Tomb Fund	2,000.00
8100-000-3540	Sprague Charity Fund	3,000.00
8100-000-3541	Cemetery General Fund	555,267.60
8100-000-3544	Coffin Fund	300.00
8100-000-3545	Gamon Flower Fund	500.00
8100-000-3546	Melvina Lukas Library	4,684.00
8100-000-3547	R. Cook Library Trust Fund	32,220.00
8100-000-3549	McGuirk Flower Fund	300.00
8100-000-3552	Johnson Library Trust	960.00
8100-000-3553	Magranis/Davenport Trust	10,000.00
8100-000-3554	Lillian Plotkin Scholarship	10,000.00
8100-000-3555	Amelia Gibson Library	78,260.77
8100-000-3556	Nye Library Trust	2,000.00
8100-000-3558	Frawley Flower Fund	300.00
8100-000-3559	Thomas Flower Fund	325.00
8100-000-3560	H & C Brouillet Library Fund	5,000.00
8100-000-3561	Claire Brouillet Apprentice Fund	570,557.04
8100-000-3565	Ben and Margaret Feldman	325.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>1,538,922.03</u>

Expendable Trust Funds

	Assets	
8200-000-1040	Cash	1,092,741.30
	Liability & Equity	
8200-000-3501	Spaight Street School	390.19
8200-000-3502	Charles Cooke School	454.95
8200-000-3503	Gertrude Hale Scholarship	33.36
8200-000-3504	Lyman Ward School	3,634.61
8200-000-3505	Edwin C. Hale Library	8,338.35
8200-000-3506	Kate Fay Library	5,352.63
8200-000-3507	Fay Johnstone Library	1,069.98
8200-000-3508	Craigin Downing	1,050.01
8200-000-3509	Richard Ellis Memorial	345.90
8200-000-3510	Barbara Dexter Library	987.92
8200-000-3511	Dr. Talcott Memorial Fund	752.56
8200-000-3512	Martha Talcott Memorial	1,312.81
8200-000-3513	Russell Field Library	742.74
8200-000-3514	Talcott Historical	1,157.86
8200-000-3515	Adele Parmenter	787.31
8200-000-3516	Millers River Translator	1,663.90
8200-000-3517	Gladys Greene Library	2,023.42
8200-000-3518	Herb Bartlet Library	2,518.68
8200-000-3519	Library Book Fund	155.47
8200-000-3520	Helen Aiken Library	479.28

8200-000-3521	A. Harding Library	2,663.17
8200-000-3522	Marion Crane Flower	1,515.50
8200-000-3523	Morse Davidson Flower	840.05
8200-000-3524	Waterman Flower	1,069.81
8200-000-3525	Wilder Cemetery Flower	610.05
8200-000-3526	White Taylor Boland Flower	374.34
8200-000-3527	Kate Fay Flower	1,044.43
8200-000-3528	Allen Warrell Flower	1,374.62
8200-000-3529	Charles Everett Flower	2,168.47
8200-000-3530	Laban Morse Flower	459.48
8200-000-3531	Marie/Virginia Phillips Flower	670.27
8200-000-3532	Carie/Flora Hale Flower	419.44
8200-000-3533	Winnie Burnham Flower	469.35
8200-000-3534	Albert Drury Flower	306.59
8200-000-3535	Willey Flower	145.99
8200-000-3536	Elizabeth Cropper Flower	119.36
8200-000-3537	Marjorie Hill Flower	223.70
8200-000-3538	Nellie Byron Fountain	20,867.96
8200-000-3539	Cemetery Tomb Fund	28,956.20
8200-000-3540	Sprague Charity Fund	31,863.32
8200-000-3541	Cemetery General Fund	95,806.21
8200-000-3542	Stabilization Fund	679,346.26
8200-000-3543	Conservation Fund	1,966.10
8200-000-3544	Coffin Fund	119.30
8200-000-3545	Gamon Flower Fund	370.41
8200-000-3546	Melvina Lukas Library	849.61
8200-000-3547	Davenport Trust Fund	2,094.98
8200-000-3548	R. Cooke Fund	3,989.52
8200-000-3549	Lake Park Fund	11,767.01
8200-000-3550	Charles Starrett	17,427.88
8200-000-3551	McGuirk Trust Fund	260.90
8200-000-3552	Johnson Library Fund	585.99
8200-000-3553	Magranis/Davenport Trust Fund	1,224.30
8200-000-3554	Lillian Plotkin Scholarship	197.19
8200-000-3555	Gibson Trust	8,943.61
8200-000-3556	Library Capital Improvement	2,110.37
8200-000-3557	Nye Library Trust	979.00
8200-000-3558	Frawley Flower Fund	108.44
8200-000-3559	Thomas Flower Fund	(4.23)
8200-000-3560	H & C Brouillet Library Trust Fund	1,356.94
8200-000-3561	C. Brouillet Apprenticeship Fund	17,823.25
8200-000-3562	Bassett Trust - Police	27,895.04
8200-000-3563	Bassett Trust - Fire	58,248.62
8200-000-3564	Insurance Stabilization Account	24,860.97
8200-000-3565	Ben & Margaret Feldman Flower Fund	(0.40)
8200-000-3587	Mildren G Foster Mann Library Fund	5,000.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>1,092,741.30</u>

Agency & Trust Funds

	Assets	
8900-000-1040	Agency Cash	47,751.85
8900-000-1700	A/R - Chapter 773	25,852.89
8900-000-1702	A/R - Fire Outside Detail	5,998.72
	Total Assets	
		<u>79,603.46</u>
	Liability & Equity	
8900-000-2581	Plumbing Inspector Fees	6,402.00
8900-000-2582	Gas Inspector Fees	4,827.90
8900-000-2583	Tailings	7,716.80
8900-000-2584	Division of Fish & Wildlife	1,839.20
8900-000-2585	Ch 773 - Outside Detail	36,969.32
8900-000-2586	Deputy Tax Collector	35.81
8900-000-2588	Firearms and Licenses	2,887.50
8900-000-2589	Septic Revenue	953.51
8900-000-2590	Trench Permitting	390.00
8900-000-2591	Compost Bins	980.44
8900-000-2592	Building Dept. Outside Detail	888.40
8900-000-2594	Conservation Committee Maps	1,312.50
8900-000-2595	Board of Health Vaccines	1,512.11
8900-000-2596	Fire Outside Details	0.00
8900-000-2597	Recreation Fee's	4,500.00
8900-000-3283	Canal St. Rental Property	8,178.05
8900-000-3293	Agency & Trust	209.92
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>79,603.46</u>

Long Term Debt

	Assets	
	Amount to be provided for retirement of LTD:	\$14,099,575.88
9000-097-3762	L/A Purchase Land (EDIC)	230,000.00
9000-200-3763	L/A Ejector Station	60,000.00
9000-200-3761	L/A Riverbend Elem Sch Feasibility Study	298,800.00
9000-205-3761	L/A Sewer Treatment Plant	90,000.00
9000-205-3762	L/A Sewer Treatment Plant (2)	500,000.00
9000-207-3762	L/A Sewer Treatment Plant (3)	24,556.00
9000-211-3761	L/A Library Addition FY11 STM Art2	4,772,147.00
9000-214-3761	L/A Water Line DIF	64,500.00
9000-214-3762	L/A Millers River Park	119,300.00
9000-214-3763	L/A New Elementary School	0.00
	Total Assets	<u>20,258,878.88</u>
	Liability & Equity	
	MWPAT - Title V	47,038.00
	MWPAT - Sewer (\$287.1 k original)	83,500.00
	MWPAT - Water (\$1.2 m original)	445,000.00
	MWPAT - Water (\$896 k original)	385,000.00
	B/P - MPL 2007 - General portion	5,855,000.00
	B/P - MPL 2007 - Water portion	735,000.00
	B/P - MPL 2008 - Sewer portion	5,784,037.88
	Water Meters FY12	310,000.00
	Transfer Station	455,000.00

9000-097-3782	L/U Purchase Land (EDIC)	230,000.00
9000-200-3783	L/U Ejector Station	60,000.00
9000-200-3781	L/U Riverbend Elem Sch Feasiblity Study	298,800.00
9000-205-3781	L/U Sewer Treatment Plant	90,000.00
9000-205-3782	L/U Sewer Treatment Plant (2)	500,000.00
9000-207-3782	L/U Sewer Treatment Plant (3)	24,556.00
9000-211-3781	L/U Library Addition FY11 STM Art2	4,772,147.00
9000-214-3781	L/U Water Line DIF	64,500.00
9000-214-3782	L/U Millers River Park	119,300.00
9000-214-3783	L/U New Elementary School	0.00
	Total Liability & Equity	<u>20,258,878.88</u>

ATHOL BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Annual Report

2013-2014

The new FY2014 values were based on figures as approved by the DOR for the FY2014 Revaluation. Real Estate sales show a slight decrease, 2.99 % in property values in all areas and types of properties across town. The next triennial revaluation will be for FY2017 and will be conducted by the Firm of Vision Government Solutions Inc. With the completion of the Library, 1st of a 4 year payment schedule and various other town projects above the 2 ½ restrictions, the tax rate increased significantly. Members of the Board are Kenneth Vaidulas, Chairman, Heather Brissette and Lisa Aldrich, Principal Assessor (Full Time) and Jean Robinson, Asst. Assessor.

ASSESSING STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014:

Total Amt to be raised \$20,191,683.44

Est. Receipts/Revenues \$08,845,498.63

Tax Levy \$11,346,184.81

Tax Rate \$ 18.43

There were 183 exemptions granted in the tax amount of \$92,450.10. Of this amount was \$56,006.07 given out for qualifying veterans and their wives and \$744.03 were deferred. The town has set up funds for both the Transfer

Station and Water/Sewer Dept.s that help to offset expenses for both.

The Board of Assessors committed during FY2014 \$10,907,912.56 in Real Estate; \$438,274.76 in Personal Property; \$1,094,448.22 in Excise; \$7,478.21 in Title V Betterments; \$2,540.39 for Roll Back Taxes and \$21,249.88 for Omitted (Athol Housing/Sterling House). The Board granted \$788.25 in Personal Property Abatements and \$23,277.01 in Real Estate Abatements. A total of \$15,034.51 was given out to those qualified for the Senior Work Off Program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth A Vaidulas, Chairman

Lisa M Aldrich

Heather Brissette

Jean W Robinson, Asst. Assessor

**REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER
FOR THE PERIOD
JULY 1, 2013 – JUNE 30, 2014**

RECEIPTS:

Cash on Hand July 1, 2013	\$ 6,710,571.66	
Tax Collector Receipts	\$ 14,857,193.05	
Other Receipts	\$ 15,034,841.27	
		\$ 36,602,605.98

DISBURSEMENTS

Payment per weekly warrant issued by the Town Accountant and Selectmen	\$ 28,792,950.12
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Cash on Hand June 30, 2014	\$ 7,809,655.86
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TRUST FUND BALANCE:	\$ 2,625,642.99
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** Other receipts include Transfers from Trust Funds \$107,268.76

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR
ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen And Citizens of Athol:

Total receipts collected in fiscal year 2013 - 2014

\$ 14,859,985.09

		Amount Collected	Balance Due
2015	Real Estate Tax	\$ 324.83	
	Personal Property	\$ 61.29	
2014	Real Estate Tax	\$ 10,335,908.73	\$ 483,716.00
	Personal Property	\$ 433,647.79	\$ 3,839.00
	Septic Betterments	\$ 6,315.98	\$ 11,580.14
	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 731,457.19	\$ 88,140.00
2013	Real Estate Tax	\$ 168,426.49	\$ 167,695.00
	Personal Property	\$ 1,025.32	\$ 2,414.00
	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 286,811.68	\$ 37,413.00
2012	Real Estate Tax	\$ 66,808.54	\$ 90,091.00
	Personal Property	\$ 1.13	\$ 2,796.00
	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 18,933.72	\$ 18,320.00
2011	Real Estate Tax	\$ 32,867.04	\$ 26,673.00
	Personal Property	\$ 67.70	\$ 947.00
	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 4,729.54	\$ 12,371.00
Previous Years	Real Estate Tax	\$ 37,344.65	\$ 7,881.00
Previous Years	Personal Property	\$ 349.49	\$ 4,336.00
Previous Years	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 10,619.08	\$ 163,654.00
	Cemetery	\$ 18,702.00	\$ 6,825.00
	Equipment Rental	\$ 253.00	\$ 335.00
	Water Rates	\$ 1,042,278.01	\$ 76,888.00
	Water Service	\$ 32,014.72	\$ 9,567.69
	Sewer Rates	\$ 1,249,604.37	\$ 104,080.00
	Sewer Service	\$ 1,349.80	\$ 612.45
	Water Liens	\$ 49.70	
Fees Collected:			
	Municipal Liens	\$ 7,650.00	
	Registry of Motor Vehicle Fees	\$ 21,175.00	
	Parking Tickets	\$ 14,110.00	
	Mobile Home Fees	\$ 19,584.00	
	Interest on Excise Tax	\$ 60,946.46	
	Interest on Property Tax	\$ 83,005.07	
	Interest on Water and Sewer	\$ 30,586.88	
	Water Account Charge	\$ 75,263.70	
	Sewer Account Charge	\$ 65,171.80	
	Roll back Taxes	\$ 2,540.39	
	Payment in Lieu Taxes		

Respectfully submitted: Eileen M. Bristol, Collector/Treasurer

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Dept Name</u>	<u>Curr Gross</u>
FORAND	CAROL		40075.90
WATSON	NANCY E	TOWN CLERK	69300.73
HORRIGAN	HUGH	ELECTION	408.00
BALDWIN	EARLE		1237.50
HAMLETT	JOAN		1485.00
KARAN	DEBORAH		52923.99
PURPLE	NORMA	HEALTH	1237.50
WITA	LAURIE		37150.86
ADAMS	WILLIAM		9196.51
BLANCHARD	DEBRA A	LIBRARY	72661.06
BRZOZOWSKI	ROBIN		10009.20
BUCK	BRENDA		860.00
CUTLER-RUSSO	ANNE	LIBRARY	35061.08
FISK	CAROL		5108.00
GAGNE	RHEBA		5084.00
KILHART	KRYSTAL		3288.00
LEHMANN	MARIE	LIBRARY	38632.48
MATTHEWS	KELSEY		24903.50
MCNIFF	KAREN		35632.04
PROUTY	SHARMAN		324.00
SHAUGHNESSY	JEAN E	LIBRARY	44754.63
SHTULMAN	ROBIN		43170.07
SKINNER	SAMANTHA		8476.00
TOMLINSON	SEAN		48.00
ARSENAULT	JENNIFER		38702.00
CUMMINGS JR	JOSEPH		5197.50
DAVIS	PATRICE		13040.78
DION	LAURINDA		331.40
GAMBRELL	SARAH		39465.08
ISAKSON	BECKY		41538.69
LONG	MARIE		6560.99
MACMILLAN	LISA	DISPATCHER	42885.12
MARONI	DAWN		2042.84
PURPLE	NORMAN		2510.00
RUSSELL	PATRICIA	DISPATCHER	8899.80
MCLAUGHLIN	LAWRENCE	MODERATOR	194.00
TAYLOR	ANN		999.96
BRIGHENTI	ANTHONY		1237.50
BRISSETTE	HEATHER	BUILDING DEPT	53493.38
CHAUVETTE	LEE	FIRE CALL	1237.50
DODGE	ALAN	SELECTMEN	196.87
RAYMOND	STEPHEN		1375.00
BUGLIONE	ANDREA		52880.88
MURPHY	MARYANN		20679.30
BRISTOL	EILEEN		66695.27
JOWDER	BRIDGET		33803.92
SARGENT	SUSAN		33803.92
ALDRICH	LISA	ASSESSORS	54965.43
ROBINSON	JEAN W.	ASSESSORS	39417.27
VAIDULAS	KENNETH	ASSESSORS	1652.04
GREENE	JOHN R	WEIGHTS & MEASURES	7075.08
MCGUIRK	NEIL		41056.60
FISHER	KALA		42658.71
MAILLOUX	CHRISTINE E	ACCOUNTANT	62605.27
KIMBALL	DENNIS		40664.91
GALE	BRIAN		500.00
JOLY	DANIEL		7435.00
SKOWYRA	BRIANNA		61147.89
YOUNG	BECKY	TAX COLLECTOR	37578.60
ADAMS	LARRY		53792.73
BASS	VERNON	DPW-SUPT.	56770.92
BELLOLI	ANDREW		53756.47
CAREY	JASON		48273.33
CARR	DAVID	DPW-SUPT.	55552.94
COOLEY	DIANA L.	DPW-SUPT.	43039.36

TotalEarns**Town of Athol**

Company Code (0275)

Check Dates: 07/10/2013 to 07/02/2014

Page

Process: 2013071001 to 2014070201

2

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Dept Name</u>	<u>Curr Gross</u>
COSTA	ROBERT N	DPW-SUPT.	63077.84
CRAVEN	DAVID		53877.01
CROTEAU	MARIE		12763.31
HUGHES	ROBERT		504.00
HUGHES	ROBERT L.	DPW-SUPT.	62308.94
KEDDY	PAUL		34784.39
KEDDY JR.	ALAN		49774.70
KNECHTEL	TRAVIS		64790.37
LEBLANC	GARY	DPW-SUPT.	64551.54
LICHTENBERGER	JASON	DPW-SUPT.	49351.65
MUSHNICK	REBECCA		9655.00
PEIRCE	HERBERT	DPW-SUPT.	58766.28
ROY	ROBERT	DPW-SUPT.	62348.99
SEXTON	ROBERT		59822.69
SUPERCHI	DANIEL	DPW-SUPT.	59102.58
TESSIER	ANDREW	DPW-SUPT.	81787.72
TRUEHART	DUANE	DPW-SUPT.	69966.42
TURNER	THOMAS	DPW-SUPT.	53927.77
WALSH	DOUGLAS	DPW-SUPT.	84838.04
BARTUS	JOHN		3517.65
BRITT	ERNEST J	ELECTION	4570.00
DODGE	KEVIN		183.00
DUPLESSIS	DREW		160.00
FAGUNDES	ROBERT		292.80
FRIEND	TIMOTHY		860.00
HORNE	RANDY	DPW-SUPT.	320.00
JACKSON JR.	RAYMOND		160.00
MARTIN	RICHARD	POLICE	9048.30
POLLARD	JAMES	ELECTION	15694.30
PRATT	RONALD		160.00
SMITH	ERIC		65.50
WRIGHT	TIMOTHY		320.00
ANDERSON	TIMOTHY	POLICE	93895.81
AUCOIN	RICHARD	POLICE	70062.86
BROWN	COREY		59309.25
BUCK	PETER J	POLICE	62651.18
CASELLA	CHRISTOPHER	POLICE	98512.17
COTE	RONNY R	POLICE	74012.76
CUMMINGS	THOMAS		62487.92
DEVENEAU	CRAIG	POLICE	26303.90
DUBRULE	SCOTT A	POLICE	84270.52
FORTES	GREGORY	ELECTION	83353.55
HAGER	DONALD		129.36
HAGER	KENT A	POLICE	82092.30
HEATH	KEVIN	POLICE	83107.17
KACZMARCZYK	DOUGLAS	ELECTION	73484.20
MOUSSEAU	JARRET	POLICE	75700.92
NEALE	TODD W.	POLICE	62664.08
O'LARI	ALBERT	POLICE	79157.18
PARAS	DANIEL		65215.27
STANGE	RANDAL	POLICE	67593.46
DISALLE	DANIEL		85486.58
DUBRULE JR.	BRUCE	FIRE-REG	70417.70
DUGUAY SR	JOHN L	FIRE-REG	75251.75
ERALI	CHAD		84149.56
FERGUSON	JAMES		78620.89
FLEMATTI	ANTHONY		63675.81
GIRARD	CHAD		2468.40
HAMILTON	JAMAL		64523.55
HORRIGAN	KEVIN S	FIRE-REG	85451.32
JACK	ERIC R	FIRE CALL	114726.35
KACZMARCZYK	KEVIN	ELECTION	76572.34
LACKI	LESTER	ELECTION	64802.65
LANDRY JR	PAUL	FIRE CALL	61184.02
PARKER	JEFFREY	FIRE-REG	73989.00

Run Date 05/19/2015

Run Time 12:16

Rpt ID TotalEarns

TotalEarns**Town of Athol**
Company Code (0275)Check Dates: 07/10/2013 to 07/02/2014
Process: 2013071001 to 2014070201Page
3

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Dept Name</u>	<u>Curr Gross</u>
SANDOVA	DANA		51682.94
SHEPARDSON JR	ARTHUR C	FIRE-REG	79739.70
SOLTYSIK	ANDREW	ELECTION	105838.95
ADAMS	DAVID		2520.86
BOUCHER	BRIAN		14994.78
BRAILEY	TRAVIS		1380.72
GOHEEN	ANDREW		1174.56
GRIFFITH	TIMOTHY		3744.68
KIMBALL	GREGGORY		2111.14
MURPHY	MICHAEL		1548.08
ROWE	WILLIAM		421.68
WINTERS	BRUCE		2905.60
GALE	JOHN		4510.00
SAVOY	CATHY		43143.09
TARARA	SALLY		2220.00
THAYER	JUDITH		11667.87
BACON	ELWIN	CONSERVATION	1900.00
MUZZY	CATHY		1400.00
TERROY	GARY		25241.55
CROSBY	CARRIE		360.00
DOIRON-LARUE	ETHAN		3058.26
DOIRON-LARUE	WYATT		2405.64
GUYER	DANA		1319.50
IOZZO	COTY		2495.63
KING	BENJAMIN	RECREATION	5000.00
MARSHALL	SAMANTHA		2724.50
POSK	JAMIE		2287.25
TRUESDELL	LEAH		2228.38
BLACK	RUTH		750.00
BOUDREAU	GERALD		750.00
BOWERS	KENNETH		750.00
BRITT	ROBERT		750.00
CARIGNAN	GIRARD		386.00
COLE JR.	WILLIAM		750.00
CYGAN	MICHAEL		394.00
DOROW	ELAINE		750.00
FORAND	JEANNE		750.00
FOWLER	BRUCE		604.00
HEBERT	PETER		1110.00
HODGDON	ALLEN		750.00
HUNTER	ROBERT		750.00
LOZIER	GERARD		408.00
MCGUIRK	BETTY		750.00
MUGLIA	ROBERTA		750.00
MYERS	DOROTHY		686.00
NAULT	SHARON		750.00
ROIX	GEORGE		750.00
SMITH	BETTY ANN		424.00
SPRINGER	BETTY ANN		750.00
STODDARD	GLORIA		1500.00
TORSTENEN	JEAN		750.00
WATTS	ROGER		750.00
WHITE	JEAN		750.00
BARILONE	LYNNE		18060.80
BIENVENUE	JASON		11601.92
BROUSSEAU	GERALD	BUILDING DEPT	2995.00
BUTLER	GREGORY		62.76
CROSSMAN JR.	LEONARD	POLICE	22083.41
DEAM	THOMAS		2856.00
DICKIE	GORDON J	WIRE INSPECTOR	1000.00
DUPRE	DEREK		68456.05
GILBERT	NICOLE		135.36
GORE	KYRA		10784.11
HARVEY	JARED		2466.00
KARPEICHIK	MATTHEW		31064.31

Run Date 05/19/2015
Run Time 12:16
Rpt ID TotalEarns

TotalEarns**Town of Athol**
Company Code (0275)Check Dates: 07/10/2013 to 07/02/2014
Process: 2013071001 to 2014070201Page
4

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Dept Name</u>	<u>Curr Gross</u>
KING	PHILLIP		1040.63
LIMA	JULION		777.50
LOZIER	THOMAS V.	FIRE-REG	98251.38
MAILLOUX SR	ALBERT		4687.00
MONDI-SYKES	SUSAN	FIRE CALL	12810.64
REILLY	KIRT	DPW-SUPT.	57245.94
RUMRILL	MEGAN		45.12
SAWIN	CHRISTINE		47425.05
SHEPARDSON	KAREN		180.48
SKINNER	JONATHAN		1288.00
SZLOSEK	MICHAEL		98321.19
WHEELER	THOMAS	DPW-SUPT.	52136.38
BARNES	LEAH		1093.75
CASCONE	JUSTIN		1230.25
DELEO	ANTHONY		1048.50
JOBST	EVAN		2100.00
JOBST	JEFFREY	RECREATION	4700.00
MCGRATH	RYAN		923.13
O'REGAN	COURTNEY		573.75
SHAUGHNESSY	MEGAN		2100.00
Grand Total			6011248.64

215 Records

CHAPTER THREE

PUBLIC SAFETY

Reports of the Fire, EMS,
Police & Inspectional Services



**ATHOL FIRE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014**



To: The Honorable Board of Selectpersons and the Citizens of Athol

The Fire Department as in years past has had a very busy year. Medical calls and non-emergency transfers were a major workload for the members of the department. The amount of work being done in the EMS Division of the Fire Department by 18 full-time personnel is taking a physical toll on them but we are committed to providing the best possible ambulance service to the citizens of Athol.

The Fire Department again received a Student Awareness of Fire Education Grant in the amount of \$4665.00. With this grant the Fire Department was able to provide fire safety education to elementary school children. Every first, second and fourth grade classrooms were visited to discuss fire safety as well as a visit from Firefighter Phil. The third and fifth grade classes were brought through the Safe Trailer to experience simulated smoke and evacuation drills. There is no doubt that the fire prevention program the Fire Department implements throughout the school year is getting the message across to these young children.

The Fire Department still continues to issue free battery operated smoke detectors to any resident in need. The detectors are generously donated by Dugas Music of Athol. It is extremely important to have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the home. If any citizens are in need of smoke detectors please feel free to contact the Fire Department at 978-249-8275. We will also assist with the installation of the detectors upon request.

It was approved at the 2014 annual town meeting to purchase a new ambulance with funds from the ambulance reserve account to replace a 2003 Ford ambulance.

In October of 2013 at the fall town meeting it was voted to petition the Massachusetts Legislature to abolish Civil Service for On Call Firefighters.

Athol Emergency Management Report 2013-2014

The Emergency Management Department has been purchasing supplies for the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) to help with the responsibilities they are assigned, such as major emergencies and local events. The team meets once a month under the direction of the new CERT leader Jerome Noyes..I would like to thank David Small for his time as leader of the team and his continued participation.

FIRE VEHICLE STATISTICS

Vehicle	Make	Year	Mileage
Engine 1 Comment:	Maxim	1976	38137
	Reserve Pumper-Not front line-Equipt with rapid intervention tools.		
Engine 2 Comment:	Central	2006	5783
	Excellent Condition		
Engine 3 Comment:	Central	1998	30933
	Fair Condition		
Engine 4 Comment:	KME	2012	9752
	Excellent condition.		
Ladder 1 Comment:	E-One	2006	964
	Excellent condition.		
Brush 2	Farrah	1970	10735
Comment:	Fair condition.		
Command Comment:	Ford	2011	21947
	Excellent condition.		
R-2 Utility Comment:	Ford	2005	65476
	Good Condition.		
R-3 Utility Comment:	Chevrolet	2002	83210
	Good Condition.		
Fire Alarm Comment:	Ford	1980	18896
	Fair Condition.		
Ambulance 1 Comment:	Ford	2003	
	Out of Service.		
Ambulance 2 Comment:	Ford	2008	140054
	Good Condition. Starting to have mechanical issues.		
Ambulance 3 Comments:	Chevrolet	2010	72844
	Excellent Condition.		

**FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014**

Fire Calls	796
Medical Calls	1471
Smoke Detector Inspections	153
Oil Burner Inspections	53
Oil Tank Inspections	30
LP Tank Inspections	32
Oil Tank Removals	8
Fuel Dispensers	10
General Permits	20
School Inspections	20
School Fire Drills	20
Nursing Home Inspections	4
Assisted Living Inspections	4
Clinic Inspections	4
Hospital Inspections	4
Hospital Fire Drills	4
Class II License Inspections	7
Multi-Unit Apartment Insp.	12
Alcohol License Renewals	10

Total Calls for Service	2662
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There were 685 open air burning permits issued for the 2014 burning season.

The Fire Department wishes to thank the Town Manager, Board of Selectpersons, all Department Heads and most importantly the citizens of Athol for all their support and assistance throughout the year.

Respectfully,

John L Duguay,
Deputy Fire Chief



Athol Police Department

Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report

The staff at the police department is dedicated to our mission of preventing and reducing crime in the community, and providing the services that increase the quality of life for all of Athol's residents.

I would commend each and every member of the department for the dedication and devotion to duty that they have shown throughout these past difficult years. Their performance during these trying times has been exceptional.

I would like to thank all of the other town department, committees, officers, agents, and elected officials for their continued support of the efforts of the police department.

Finally, I would like to thank the residents of the Town of Athol for their continued support of the police department.

Sincerely,

Timothy C. Anderson
Chief of Police

Calls for Service

Total Calls for Service	12,421
-------------------------	--------

Crime Statistics FY 2014

Total Offenses Reported	1395
Criminal Homicide	0
Manslaughter	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	0
Rape	8
Robbery	3
Aggravated Assault	36
Simple Assault	83

Intimidation	17
Arson	2
Burglary / B&E	67
Larceny – Theft (no vehicles)	113
Motor Vehicle Theft Total	1
Counterfeiting/Forgery	12
Fraud	2
Vandalism	103
Drug/Narcotics Violation	33
Weapons Law Violation	10
Disorderly Conduct	30
OUI	38
Liquor Law Violation	7
Town Bylaw Violation	351
All Other Violations	479

Total Arrests	225
Juvenile Arrests	8

Persons Summoned to Court	285
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Persons Held in Protective Custody	16
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Traffic Statistics

FY 2014

M/V Citations	423
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Civil	87
Warning	185
Arrest	54
Criminal	97

Parking Tickets	473
------------------------	------------

M/V Accidents	364
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Over \$1000	203
Under \$1000	161



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Athol Board of Health; FY 2014 Annual Report

To: The Honorable Board of Selectman and the Citizens of Athol

A wide range of responsibilities are mandated under state law and regulation to protect the health and safety of the community each and every day.

- ❖ *Protection of the food supply:* Our office conducted eighty-two (82) inspections to ensure public food safety at restaurants, school cafeterias, church kitchens, farmer's market and food concession stands including three (3) inspections due to complaints received from the public. The Board issued permits to eighty five (85) food service and food retail operations, and twenty-one (21) temporary food vendors. Three (3) food establishment plans was reviewed.
- ❖ *Protection of the water supply:* Enforcement of the Title 5 Septic Code: The health agent reviewed fifty (50) Title 5 reports , observed twenty (20) perc tests, reviewed and issued twenty-five (25) Disposal Septic Construction Permits, and conducted thirty-five (35) septic system inspections. The Board issued permits to ten (10) septic system installers, nine (9) septage haulers and issued three (3) well permits. The office issued seven (7) beaver removal permits and applied for a MA Fisheries and Wildlife permit for to addle Canadian Geese eggs; measures to reduce nuisance wildlife posing health threats to Athol's open water.
- ❖ *Enforcement of state sanitary and lead poisoning regulations and Codes:* Fifty-one (51) trash complaints and 3 incidents of illegal dumping were investigated. The office conducted twenty-two (22) pre-rental housing, two (2) routine lodging inspections, thirty-two (32) sanitary code inspections for housing complaints and forty-one (41) follow-ups to ensure compliance. Four (4) court appearances were necessary to obtain compliance. The Health Agent is a member of the Vacant and Abandoned Building Committee and works closely with the Attorney General's Receivership program. There were sixty-nine (69) inspections of vacant buildings for code violations.
- ❖ *Enforcement of no-smoking and nuisance laws.* The Board issued twenty-one (21) tobacco permits to local businesses; one method to help prevent the sale of tobacco products to minors. The Board issued nineteen (19) permits to refuse haulers. One (1) noise, three (3) odor, one (1) nuisance smoke and one (1) asbestos complaint were investigated.
- ❖ *Inspection of pools, beaches, camps, mobile home parks, tanning salons:* The Board licensed two (2) tanning salons, three (3) public and semi-public swimming pools, two (2) mobile home parks and one (1) recreational camp. This resulted in two (2) tanning salon, three (3) pool and one (1) camp inspections.

- ❖ *Participation in hazardous waste collection Day:* Residents are able to drop off hazardous materials free of charge at this yearly fall event funded by the Health Department.
- ❖ *Board of Health compost bin and rain barrel sales:* Thirteen (13) compost bins were sold to help reduce the waste stream by diverting organics into useable compost. Six (6) rain barrels were sold to encourage water conservation.
- ❖ *Disease prevention and health promotion:* The Montachusett Public Health Network (MPHN) Nurse investigated thirty-two (32) communicable diseases reporting results the MA Division of Communicable Disease Control. The Board contracts Athol Hospital to provide public health nursing services; which included sixteen (16) blood pressure clinics and nine (9) flu & pneumonia clinics for Athol and surrounding communities. Seven hundred fifteen (715) flu and eight (8) pneumonia vaccinations were administered. Seven (7) animal bites were reported to the animal inspector for follow up on rabies prevention. The Health Department started a Facebook page in April 2014! ***Please “like” “Athol Board of Health on FB.”***
- ❖ *Participation in emergency preparedness mandated by the federal government:* The Health Department participates in the Region 2 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition consisting of seventy four (74) cities and towns in Worcester County and in the Athol Hospital Emergency Preparedness Group. The Health Agent participated with other coalition public health agents in a Table Top exercise simulating a hurricane disaster. The satellite phone, provided by the Coalition, is tested monthly. It would be used in time of a wide scale emergency when communications are also affected. The coalition provided funds to purchase two Galaxy Tablets to be used in times of emergencies but also for everyday work.
- ❖ *Public Health Regionalization:* The Athol Health Department is a member of the Montachusett Public Health Network (MPHN); the inter-municipal agreement was signed September 2013. Eleven (11) towns are participating; Athol, Clinton, Fitchburg, Gardner, Leominster, Phillipston, Princeton, Royalston, Sterling, Templeton, and Westminster. Regionalization is one way to increase the capacity of the Health Departments in each town. MPHN provides infectious disease follow-up and beach testing services at a lower fee. A grant provided a SHARPS collection kiosk; available in the Police Station lobby 24/7. The Network pays the disposal cost. We continue to be a part of the Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative; a network grant received from the Department of Public Health to develop a regional response to opioid misuse and abuse.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah V. Karan, R.S.; Health Agent

Laurie A. Wiita; Assistant Health Agent

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen & the Citizens of the Town of Athol:

The building department is operated on a budget that is generated from the fees brought in and typically it pays for itself. However there has been a decline in building permits in the last few years. In FY14 the building department collected \$49,970.00 in permit fees with 1 municipal permit fees waived (totaling \$35.00). The operating budget was \$80,899.40. The number of building permits that were approved totaled 307 with a total valuation of \$3,171,237.00

Building Permits Issues FY2013	
Single Family Homes	0
Multi-Family Homes	0
Commercial, including Municipal	0
Additions	4
Garages/Carports	5
Decks/Porches	14
Pools	7
Wood/Pellet Stoves	11
Sheds	3
Demo	6
Other, Including roofs, siding, & signs	176
Foundation Only	0
Solar Panels	6
Vacant & Abandoned Property	12
CMR 780 sec. 110 Inspections	13
On Site Inspections	404

Plumbing Permits 54
Gas Permits 37

Total Plumbing & Gas Fees: \$14,000.00

Respectfully submitted,

Brianna Skowyra
Inspector of Buildings

WIRE INSPECTOR

Annual Report

July 1,2011-June 30,2012

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen

The following is a report of the activities of the Wire Inspection Department for the fiscal year 2014

MONTH	NUMBER OF PERMITS	FEES COLLECTED
July	15	\$2,015.00
August	24	\$12,100.00
September	24	\$4,085.00
October	20	\$2,025.00
November	15	\$1,485.00
December	10	\$1,330.00
January	10	\$990.00
February	17	\$1,740.00
March	24	\$2,620.00
April	23	\$2,745.00
May	13	\$1,870.00
June	22	\$1,905.00
Totals	217	\$34,910.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary E. Terroy
Wire Inspector

CHAPTER FOUR

PUBLIC SERVICE

Reports of the Council on Aging,
Public Library, Veterans Services,
Planning & Sealer of W&M



ATHOL COUNCIL ON AGING

584 MAIN STREET - STE. 15

ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS 01331

TEL: (978) 249-8986 * FAX: (978) 575-0277

Cathy A. Savoy
Executive Director

Margaret L. Young
Chairman

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

The Citizens of Athol

Mission Statement

Councils on Aging are the principal agencies of local government that serve older adults. First authorized by special legislation in 1956, there are now over 347 Councils in the Commonwealth. The three core responsibilities of the Councils on Aging are but not limited to:

- To identify the needs of senior citizens along with the available resources within the community.
- To educate the community at large in the challenges of aging and advocate for the needs of its senior citizens.
- To design, promote and put in place services that are needed and to coordinate the efforts of agencies which serve older people.

The Athol Council on Aging office and Senior Center is located at 82 Freedom Street in Lord Pond Plaza. The COA office hours are: Mon. Wed. & Thurs. 8:00-5:00, Tues. 8:00-8:00. The Senior Center is open 9:00-3:30 Monday through Thursday with occasional scheduled night and weekend programming.

Over the past year approximately 2,000 community seniors were served by the Council on Aging and Senior Center by the numerous programs provided through funding from the Town of Athol, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs Formula Grant, Frank S. Parmenter Trust Fund, Franklin County Home Care Corporation Title IIIB, Friends of the Athol Council on Aging and individual contributions.

The Athol Senior Dining Center provided 2,306 congregate dinner meals served Tuesday through Thursday at 12 noon. The dinners are prepared by the meal site dining manager, a position funded by Franklin County Home Care, along with volunteer staff.

Activities at the Senior Center include health related activities/screenings, hearing tests, foot screening, blood pressure clinics, senior fitness, yoga, congregate meals, bingo, red aces, craft classes, movies, meetings, hosts senior organizations, art classes, tax preparation, social services, educational programs, information and referral and special events.

Through a Title III D Grant administered through Franklin County Home Care and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs the Council was able to offer a "Wellness for Life" program "Yoga for Every Body" facilitated by Pat Roix. The innovative Birthday Card Outreach Program continues and is funded by donations.. Approximately 307 seniors received Birthday cards along with the monthly Senior News Flyer and other pertinent community information.

Through Formula Grant funding, the Council was able to continue the well attended "Senior Fitness" program, instructed by certified staff of the Athol area YMCA two mornings a week at the Senior Center. The fitness program served 30 unduplicated seniors for 96 sessions. Summer fitness classes were held in July & Aug. at the request of the class..

The monthly Brown Bag distribution continues with approximately 125-135 elders receiving surplus food donated and delivered by the Western Mass Food Bank. Approximately 55 of the brown bags are delivered by volunteer drivers. The program is supervised by the COA staff. There are approximately 25 volunteers who unload the truck, package the brown bags and distribute or deliver to homebound seniors and the disabled.

145 seniors received assistance in the preparation of their state and federal income taxes through the AARP tax assistance program and the Council on Aging. Through outreach efforts the tax preparation program has shown a significant increase in demand over the past several years. Twelve seniors were assisted with "Circuit Breaker" Tax Rebates.

The Council has maintained blood pressure clinics with 309 pressures taken at 48 clinics. Doctor referrals are made to those who indicate issues. This program is supported by the Frank S. Parmenter Trust Fund.

The "Shine" program, that assists area seniors with health insurance issues and questions, has served approximately 260 clients, and assisted with the Prescription Advantage program and the changes in the H.M.O. programs. Two volunteer S.H.I.N.E. counselors trained through Franklin County Home Care Corporation and supported by the Council on Aging provides assistance.

The Council has maintained the foot-screening clinic available to seniors twice a month. 259 screenings were performed during the 22 sessions.

Fuel assistance – The Council on Aging provides intake assistance in applying for fuel assistance. Over 40 elders were served through referrals.

Senior Transportation – is currently available through Management Transportation Services (MTG), formerly Community Transit Services, through Montachusett Regional Transit Authority.

Through the generosity of the North Worcester County Board of Realtors and their "Adopt a Family" Christmas program, the Council was able to deliver 50 Christmas gifts to isolated, less fortunate elders.

The Council on Aging provided assistance and referred seniors to free legal assistance offered through North Central Legal assistance and the Franklin County Bar Association.

On Christmas Day, approximately 250 homebound elders and disabled were delivered a complete ham dinner. With the assistance of the COA Board and the *MANY* volunteers, the dinners were cooked, packed & delivered. The Christmas dinner program is a three day project.

The Council on Aging provided assistance with the Wm. J. O'Brien Thanksgiving community dinner where over 100 community residents were served a sit down meal on Thanksgiving Day at the American Legion Post 102.

Throughout the year the Council on Aging Director contributed to various boards and committees that included, the Friends of the Athol Council on Aging board, Athol Housing Authority board chair, and Traffic Safety committee member.

The Director and Board members participated in the Mass. Council on Aging, Western Mass. Council on Aging, Mass. Public Health Assoc., local school programs, (Inter-generational) and numerous other senior and municipal connected classes and seminars.

The Council on Aging applied for and received four grants to support various programming for the Fiscal Year 2014.

In June, a volunteer recognition luncheon was held for volunteers at the Athol Senior Center. Senator Steve Brewer, Representative Denise Andrews, Representative Ann Gobi, acting Town Manager and Select board chair Steve Raymond, Executive Office of Elder Affairs Emmett Schmarsow and Rebecca Bialecki from the North Quabbin Community Coalition were among those who honored the volunteers for their continuous commitment in assisting the COA with the many programs it offers to elder and disabled community residents. Guest Speaker Pat Roix spoke on stress and relaxation.

In June the following slate of officers were elected for the coming year:

Margaret Young, Chairperson

Stephen Larry, Vice-Chairperson

Kathy Cygan, Secretary

Other board members include:

Jean Ryder

Walter Lehman

Lillian Batchelder

Ruth Black

Karen Lachance

Linda Grenier

The Board would like to thank the 180 volunteers that make the Council on Aging programs possible. We are indebted to the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, the Massachusetts Councils on Aging, Franklin County Home Care Corporation, the Friends of the Athol Council on Aging, Athol, Frank S. Parmenter Trust Fund, Athol Memorial Hospital, the local Cultural Council grantors, Senior Center meal site volunteers, AARP tax preparers, Western Mass Food Bank, Management Transportation Services/Montachusett Regional Transit Authority, the North

Central County Board of Realtors, Athol Lion's Club and many other clubs, organizations and individuals.

The Council on Aging is still working on the interior completion of the Athol Senior Center. During the past year a construction project addressed the health/outreach room build out. Funding was sought by working with the Friends of the Council on Aging (a 501c3 non-profit organization) who submitted a request for funding on behalf of the Council and received a \$40,000. grant from the John W. Boynton Fund, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee. Future build out plans include the completion of the front foyer space.

In conclusion, the Council on Aging wishes to thank the Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and the citizens of Athol for their support and assistance throughout the year. If any citizen has questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Council office at (978) 249-8986.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy A. Savoy

Judy Thayer

Executive Director

Program Assistant

**Athol Public Library
2013-2014 Annual Report**

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Athol

“When you are growing up there are two institutional places that affect you most powerfully: the church, which belongs to God, and the public library, which belongs to you. The public library is a great equalizer.” - Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones

Building News

See also the Library Trustees Report.

Everyone was thrilled to be moving back to the new building in November. However, it was also another year of chaos and confusion while we packed up and made the move back to the library in the winter months. Learning the building systems and trying to figure out how to operate in the expanded facility was time consuming. There were many who stepped up to help and please know that the library staff and Trustees appreciate those people who lent a hand.

On opening day December 30, 2014, we used all our old furniture and folding tables and chairs while we waited for our new furnishings to arrive bit by bit. Maybe a little history on this is in order. When the furniture and fixtures line item was transferred to fund construction, Barbara Robichaud, a member of the executive board of the Friends stepped up to the plate and organized a Naming Opportunities Campaign. On her Committee were Bill Kessler, Zach Rand, Patricia Roix, and Claire Starrett. The L.S. Starrett Company donated \$25,000 to this campaign and then issued a \$50,000 match challenge grant to individuals for donations of any size. This challenge was met within two months! Once we had the money in hand, we were able to start selecting and ordering new furniture. It was exciting to see the delivery truck pull up and find out what new piece of furniture arrived that day. We thank the Friends and the Naming Opportunity Committee for their successful campaign that allowed the building to be beautifully furnished.

The Friends were fortunate to be able to engage Sammis Woodworking to do a Giving Tree donated by Donald and Carol Ambrozy. The ‘leaves’ on the tree featured the names of donors. This gorgeous tree is located in the library lobby. It quickly filled up and the Friends voted to have Mr. Sammis create a second tree which is also in the lobby. There are plenty of spaces available on this new tree so ask at the circulation desk if you are interested.

Mr. Sammis also fashioned custom end panels for the book shelves and a number of pieces of furniture far less expensive than ordering from a catalog and also tailored to our library. The library circulation desk features a 22 inch burl that is magnificent.

Committee member Hal Gillam wrote a \$170,000 grant to DOER for the heating system so the furniture money moved originally to fund that heating account, was moved back to furniture. Additionally Carol Ambrozy wrote a \$35,000 grant to the John Boynton Foundation for movable archives shelving and Deb Blanchard wrote a \$2,500 grant to Frank S. Parmenter for large print

shelving. Between grants and fundraising, over \$400,000 was raised. Many, many thanks to all!

Just prior to moving back into the building, the Friends of the Library sponsored a Gala Event for the donors who gave over \$2,500 to get a sneak preview of the new library. While we did not have our new furniture yet, people still enjoyed getting tours from staff and finding out what the new spaces were for. Barbara Robichaud, her daughter Stephanie Donaldson, Mark Wright, Claire Starrett, Jean Shaughnessy, Deb Blanchard and their team of volunteers put on a delicious buffet while the Gypsy Wranglers provided lively music. Stan's Liquor Mart and Berkshire Brewing provided a complimentary bar.

The same weekend in December, there was a staff, Trustees, and Construction committee preview holiday party. Santa and his elf made an appearance and children in attendance got books and candy canes. It was a busy weekend as we had a sled, wagon or other vehicle parade to march the children's books back up to the library. Randy Mitchell provided music to get us there and the Friends provided cider and candy canes. Participants enjoyed the chance to tour the library.

When opening day came on December 30th at 9:30, Allen Young had the privilege of being the 'first customer'. He was given a private tour of the building and hearty congratulations. He went on to write a very pleasing column in the Athol Daily News about the opening.

The official Dedication Ceremony happened on Saturday, January 26th at 1 p.m. Over 300 people were in attendance to listen to speakers such as Senator Stephen Brewer, Representative Denise Andrews, Trustee Chair Margaret Young, Jeff Hoover from Tappe Architects and many others. A special art exhibit was held in the program room of the late Barbara Ellis's works. The new art display rail system was donated by Susan Paju and Heidi Kleiner. Tours and refreshments were enjoyed by many.

The library opened for the Downtown Fall Festival and many people stopped by for tours, refreshments and to enter raffles sponsored by the Friends. Thanks to David Brothers who had a wonderful art exhibit and Susan Paju who handed out flyers downtown.

Construction of the new park began in June and design changes were made to the original plans once we could see what was in the ground out there. The site work sub-contractor Sykes came forward with an offer to let us use reclaimed granite blocks that they had salvaged from the old Main Street bridge. This slice of history was well received by the Trustees and staff and it was voted to substitute these for the new radius granite that was specified.

A new program was started this year with the introduction of the Friends of the Library Greeter Station. Since the adult department has always been on the second floor, we did not anticipate any real changes. However once we reopened with a new entrance, it quickly became apparent that users entering the library did not see a human face to greet them and direct them. Barbara Robichaud from the Friends Executive Board, jumped in and volunteered to organize a roster of volunteers who would take turns sitting in the lobby to direct people and give tours. The Friends paid for a new Greeter Station desk to be created by Sammis Woodworking.

This new program has been very successful with patrons and staff alike commenting on how nice it is to see a friendly face when they arrive. We are always looking for new greeters and will be holding more trainings in the future. Please sign up at the adult circulation desk if you are interested.

Adult Services from Robin Shtulman, Kelsey Matthews and Anne Cutler-Russo

Hundreds of patrons attended programs ranging from internet safety to sprucing up your wardrobe to learning about what 'fair trade' really means. People also had fun at theatrical and educational programs, cooking programs, searching for spirits, and making crafts. As always, the library's mystery and lunch-time book groups were well-attended and had great discussions. We also introduced a new book discussion group, focusing on meditation and spirituality, led by volunteers George Roix and Nancy Griffin. Our knitting group, the Knit-Wits, (headed up by volunteer Jean White), continues to grow in number and spirit, welcoming anyone who would like to learn.

The APL provided delivery service to more than a dozen home-bound readers, thanks to our senior tax abatement volunteers Jeanne Forand and Mike Cygan. Our new private study rooms proved to be very useful and popular, as did the 6 additional new public access computers. We hosted an event in the region-wide Mount Wachusett Community College series of readings, films, and discussions focused on the work of Thoreau.

An On the Same Page program was developed with the focus on the book *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak. We were thrilled to have Eileen Allen and Deb Blanchard, teachers at the middle school, lead a book discussion, we viewed the film *The Book Thief*, and hosted Amy Pattee, professor at Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science, who talked on the history of book burning and censorship with an emphasis on Nazi Germany.

It's wonderful to be back home in our own building, and we look forward to providing opportunities for even more great experiences for library visitors.

Young Adult Department from Anne Cutler-Russo

Summer of 2013 found the library in the Senior Center with the summer reading theme of "Beneath the Surface". Students learned about soil, seeds, and types of plants with Beth Jaillet from McMannis Florist. We made newspaper pots, planted them, and then students took them home to care for.

We explored caves by making a cave diorama and a mural of a cave painting. Robin Shtulman, our assistant director and a trained archeologist, explained the science, tools, and procedures of archeology. Jeff Cole from Witty's Funeral Home and Rich Verock from Athol Granite Works talked about gravestones and obituaries. We created another mural, this one about what we could find below the surface of the sea. We took a walk to Athol's water and waste water treatment plants where we were treated to a tour of the facilities. Finally, we created a picture frame with a variety of sea shells.

As during previous summers, our multi-talented library volunteer Jean White guided students through two sewing projects, aprons and quilted totebags. Sewing machines were generously loaned by the middle school.

ATAC resumed meeting monthly in August. Members created a time capsule which is located in the Carnegie section of the new library. We celebrated Banned Books Week in September and in October we created scarecrows. Several members were able to help with the giant book sale which was held in November at the Town Hall and we were pleased to be able to have a tour of the new library before it was opened to the public. We packed the teen books for the move and then in January of 2014 had our first meeting in the new library. We participated in Teens for Jeans, attended a Forensics program which included fingerprinting, DNA extraction, and real crime information; hosted Cynthia Crosson, author of *Only Daddy's Dog* and founder of an organization which provides service dogs to veterans; picked up trash at Silver Lake Park; and helped Anne with suggestions and ideas.

French Club met weekly in October, November, and January through June. The Wild Knights Chess Club was formed with David Price as our volunteer moderator. The Friends of the Library and generous donors provided funds for supplies for the group. During February school vacation a Crazy Craft session was held and an Anime movie was shown. The Girl Scouts came to the library three times for book and library related activities. We made pasta planes and then during the April school vacation held a multicultural cooking program and a Wii gaming session.

Community Reading Day was held in October at the elementary schools in the district and at the middle school. All the disgusting information in *How They Croaked*, *the Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous* by Georgia Bragg delighted the middle school students and their volunteer readers, and made us all realize how lucky we are now with better medical care and antibiotics.

Children's Department from Jean Shaughnessy

In June 2013, the library was still located at the Athol Senior Center temporary location. The "Dig Into Reading" Summer Reading Program began in June 2013 and ended seven weeks later in August. Wednesday morning Story Times themes and activities included rocks, geodes, mud, and snakes. Children read 2835 books or 57,100 pages to earn 132 prizes provided by the Friends. There were nineteen programs, including story times and crafts, attended by 352 children. Paulette Morin presented "Having Fun with Fossils and Dinosaurs" for 55 children and parents to end the summer program. Chrissy Bailey was available through the school district's Title I funding to help children with their reading skills and choosing books.

Regular programming resumed at the end of September with story times, playgroup time, Y Nursery School story times, LEGO Club, and a half day of school movie. In addition to the 12 Story Times offered in October 2013, movies were shown to 30 children on each of the half day/no schools days. Community Reading Day was held in both the elementary schools and at the middle school, featuring the books – "How They Croaked", "Just A Few Words Mr. Lincoln", and "Abe Lincoln's Hat". The Halloween Stroll only saw about 150 children making their way through the big parking lot for candy.

The big event in November 2013 was the fun and successful Book Sale held at the Athol Town Hall. The library closed for the last two weeks of November until the "Book Parade" back to the new library on December 29. Wheelbarrows, two wheelers, and wagons replaced the shopping carts of the July parade and hot chocolate and candy canes were enjoyed by participants.

Programs, Story Times, and LEGO Club resumed in January 2014 in the beautiful new library. A cub scout troop met, had a tour, and checked out books. Despite three snow days in February, it was a busy and full month. Eight Story Times, a half day movie, and two craft programs were held. February Vacation Week featured Candy Bingo, a 50th Birthday Party for Flat Stanley with stories, games, and cake, and a very well-attended Kindergarten readiness and Story Walk program organized by Valuing Our Children. A Girl Scout troop visited, toured, and donated several new dolls to the library. Anne and Jean attended the meeting of the North Quabbin Community Coalition to promote library activities.

During March 2014, Ken Vaidulas arranged for and paid for transportation for the two first grade classes at Pleasant Street School to visit the library. Students enjoyed a tour, stories, getting library cards, and a chance to pick out a book to take back to school. April, especially Vacation Week, featured many special programs. Donna Osborne and her therapy dog, Tazer, volunteered to present a "PAWS to Read" program and spent three evenings this month listening to children read. The first Rotary Reads program was presented by Tanya Quinn of TDBank. She read "A Chair for My Mother" and "Alexander Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday". Children then painted banks to keep and each family received a copy of the books to keep. April Costa, a local, self-published author, read her book and talked about her experience writing it. The Springfield Orchestra presented a "Musical Instrument Petting Zoo", coordinated by Valuing Our Children. Nichol Wander presented a puppet show on healthy foods. The movie "Frozen" was shown during vacation week, also. Entertainment for the Friends Annual Meeting, held during April vacation, was "Swords Through the Ages". Story Times, LEGO Club, and Tazer, the Listening Dog with PAWS to READ all continued until the end of May. Mitch Grosky presented "Bartholomew and the Oobleck" as the May Rotary Reads program. Four classes visited the library for tours, library cards, and stories. Each classroom in the Athol elementary schools was visited to promote the summer reading program before school ended. The Summer Reading Program, "Fizz! Boom! Read!" began in June.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Materials were purchased in memory of: Viola Brothers, J. Arthur Chiasson, Ryan J. Colturi, Joan Davidson, Lois Dugan, Lisa Marie (Maillet) Dupuis, William O. Foye, PHD, Natalie C. (Prusky) Goldstein, Chet Hall, Ray Holden, Jean Joy, Anne Killay, Gerard J. Maillet, William McIntosh, Cathy Robuccio, Barbara Warner, and Charles Worth.

YOUR LIBRARY STAFF

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Debra A. Blanchard, *Director*

Robin Shtulman, *Assistant Director*

Marie Lehmann, Anne Cutler-Russo, Kelsey Matthews, *Senior Library Technicians*
Robin Brzozowski, Carol Fisk, Rheba Gagne, *Part Time Library Technicians*
Tom Deam, *Computer Aide*
William Adams, *Part Time Custodian*
Brenda Buck, Sharman Prouty, Sean Tomlinson, *Substitutes*

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Jean Shaughnessy, *Children's Librarian*
Karen McNiff, *Children's Assistant*
Samantha Skinner, Krystal Kilhart, *Pages*

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

A special thanks to our faithful treasurer Lillian Bachelder and secretary Jean White both of who do such a splendid job. Thanks for all the many events the Friends sponsor and the support they give the library!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Treasurer: Lil Bachelder
Secretary: Jean White
Trustee Rep: Margaret Young
Directors: Nancy Griffin, Rita Grimes, Karen McNiff, Julianne Matthews, Christine Miranda, Patricia Ray, Mary Roberts, Barbara Robichaud, and Jean White.
Join the Friends Today!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY VOLUNTEER GREETERS

Ellenmarie Babin, Sandi Bachelder, Carolyn Corsiglia, Jude Geikie, Nancy Griffin, Anne Grosky, Bonnie Hodgdon, Muriel Holden, Jean Laakso, Terry Mulligan, Florence Pelletier, Joyce Phinney, Patricia Ray, Barbara Robichaud, Margaret Robinson, Patricia Tedford, Patricia Vandenberg.

LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE (mission complete and disbanded)

Chairman: Carol Ambrozy Recording Member: Debra Blanchard
Voting Members: Bonnie Benjamin, Sharon Brighenti, Tony Brighenti, Eric DeHays, Susie Feldman, Joe Hawkins, Linda Oldach, George Roix, Jean Shaughnessy, Ken Vaidulas, Charlie Winters, Margaret Young. Non Voting Ex-Officio Member: Hal Gillam.

SENIOR TAX ABATEMENT VOLUNTEERS

Brenda Buck, Michael Cygan, Jeanne Forand, George Roix, Bruce Fowler, Jean White.

Lastly from the Director's Desk

The return to the beautiful new building was accomplished thanks to many helping hands and we were able to open to the public on December 30, 2013. I was determined that we reopen in 2013. Although the project was delivered three months late and moving back in the winter was no picnic, the facility has been widely enjoyed by the public. Circulation and usage has more than doubled, sometimes tripled. Special thanks are due to the staff, trustees, construction committee and Friends of the Library for their support. I would be remiss not to mention the huge donation

from Castine Movers who moved everything back to our new building free of charge. This was a huge gift to the staff who have endured a lot and were thankful not to be moving heavy boxes and furniture in subzero weather.

This will also be my last annual report to the town after 43 years of service. I started at the Athol Public Library as a high school page under Alice Newton and have appreciated the training I got from her and many other wonderful librarians such as Myrtle Scribner and Dorothy Simonetti along with librarians from the Athol Junior High School and Athol High School: Jeanne Forand, Mrs. Parker, Dorothy Grace and Ann Hyer. I have many wonderful memories of working at the Athol Public Library and am grateful to the town for employing me these many years. It is time for someone else to bring the library to the next level and for me to enjoy retirement. It will be great to be a volunteer at the library without the daily budget hassles. Thank you Athol for the faith you placed in me.

*Respectfully submitted,
Debra A. Blanchard, Library Director*

STATISTICS

Note: this has been another abnormal year with closing six weeks to move back to the library.

CIRCULATION FY14

Adult	69,767
Young Adult	3,996
Children's	<u>28,179</u>

TOTAL	101,942
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Interlibrary Loan

Received from other libraries	13,294
Provided to other libraries	10,913
Nonresident circulations	15,916

Programs

Adult	25
Adult attendance	670
Young adult	114
Young adult attendance	971
Children	170
Children's attendance	3,236

<u>Registered borrowers</u>	4,515
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Volunteers

Number	95
Approximate hours worked	6,800

<u>Website hits</u>	22,332
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<u>Computer Use</u>	14,832
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NORTHEAST QUABBIN DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES
584 MAIN STREET, ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS 01331
PHONE: 978/249-6935 FAX: 978/575-0269
email: vetagnt@townofathol.org

SERVING VETERANS FROM ATHOL, PETERSHAM, PHILLIPSTON AND ROYALSTON

"To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan." – A Lincoln

FY14 ANNUAL REPORT

HISTORY & SERVICES

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts began providing for its needy veterans immediately following the Revolutionary War. At the start of the Civil War in 1861, the state legislature formalized the assistance provided to veterans by establishing M.G.L. Chapter 115 and Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services. State and local government leaders wanted to provide benefits to men and women (both living and deceased) who had borne the burden of military duty—and to their families. Chapter 115 enables every eligible Massachusetts veteran to receive certain financial, medical, educational, employment, and other benefits earned by military service. Veterans' Services Officers in 351 municipalities across the state help veterans and families connect with state and federal benefits.

VETERANS' BENEFITS, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- Chapter 115 Benefits – Provides a needs based means tested program of financial and medical assistance to eligible veterans.
- Annuities – Provides \$2,000 annually to 100% service-connected disabled veterans, Gold Star parents, and to unremarried spouses of deceased veterans whose death was service connected.
- Wartime Bonuses – Provides bonuses to eligible wartime veterans.
- Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries – Eligible veterans can be buried at no cost and a nominal fee for spouses in one of two state veterans' cemeteries.
- Women Veterans' Network – Provides women veterans with information on benefits; expand awareness of the needs; and identify health and human resources to meet those needs.
- Homeless prevention – Provides outreach services and a network of assistance to at-risk veterans and their families.
- Transitional Housing – Provides safe housing, a variety of services, and counseling for up to 24 months to eligible veterans.
- SAVE Program – Provides peer outreach, veteran to veteran, to prevent suicide and advocacy of veterans benefits and services. The SAVE Team is mobile and meets with veterans in the field.
- SHARP Program – Provides peer support, mental health services, psychiatric evaluation and linkages to emergency shelters, and may enroll eligible veterans in the HUD-VASH program.
- Additional services and programs: Employment, Property Tax Exemptions, Soldiers' Homes, and access to federal and local nonprofit benefits programs and services to eligible veterans.

NQD ACTIVATION & REACTIVATION

Secretary, Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) authorized the district to continue operations through May 8, 2016. District towns are Athol, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston.

There were four Veterans' Services Districts operating in the Commonwealth on July 1, 2007. There are now 22 Veterans' Services Districts serving 126 communities with a population approaching 1.2 million residents.

NQD GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 115: Section 11: For every district established under authority of M.G.L. Chapter 115: Section 10 there shall be a Board of Directors consisting of a representative as appointed by the board of selectmen of each member municipality.

The Board established By-Laws dated January 11, 2006, and amended April 25, 2007, November 3, 2008 and July 12, 2011, which define district operations. Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 115: Section 11 & NQD By-Laws:

1. At the November Board meeting, Director of Veterans' Services presents the next fiscal year's Administrative Budget to the Board recommending the funds required for district operations
2. The Board reviews, discusses and votes to approve the Administrative Budget. It includes each member community's assessment of the total budget.

M.G.L. CHAPTER 115 – VETERANS' BENEFITS

Veterans' benefits are monies paid by towns to eligible recipients. The Commonwealth reimburses a community at least 75% of dollars paid in benefits. See chart:

FINALIZED FY14 VETERANS' BENEFITS DATA

Town	Benefits Expended	State Reimbursement	% Reimbursed
Athol	\$159,869.41	\$120,539.57	75%
Petersham	\$2,213.12	\$1,659.84	75%
Phillipston	\$17,138.83	\$12,854.14	75%
Royalston	\$213.12	\$159.84	75%

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

NQD assisted veterans with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), and other U.S. Departments and Agencies.

The office witnessed an increasing number of local area veterans diagnosed with Agent Orange illnesses, Mesothelioma, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Military Sexual Trauma (MST), etc.

VA applications for service-connected disabilities; increasing existing service-connected disabilities; Dependency & Indemnity Claims for spouse of deceased veteran; pensions; burial expense assistance; Veterans Grave Markers; Healthcare, etc.

The district has acquired military personnel records; medical records; medals, decorations and awards not previously issued to the veteran. Veterans have received assistance with DoD applications to correct Military Records and formal requests to review and upgrade type of discharge.

I look forward to serving veterans, spouses, dependents, and surviving spouses of deceased veterans, who reside in the District.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil P. McGuirk

Neil P. McGuirk, Director of Veterans' Services



FY14 Annual Report

Office of Planning & Development
Andrea Buglione, Director

Overview

The Office of Planning and Development works to maximize quality of life for Athol residents and businesses. Through long-range planning, grant administration, public outreach, and economic development tools, we strive to ensure that Athol continues to be a desirable place to live, do business, and visit. The Office works collaboratively with a range of community groups, local and regional agencies, town committees, and the public and private sectors.

The Director of Community & Economic Development, Andrea Buglione, was hired in July 2013. Mary Ann Murphy has continued as the department's part-time fiscal manager for the CDBG program.

Grants Management

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

FY12 CDBG Grant. Continued management of the FY12 (18 month grant), housing rehabilitation program. During the span of 7/2013 to 7/2014, 6 units of housing were rehabilitated.

FY14 CDBG Grant. In February 2014, working with Breezeway Farm Consulting, we submitted an application for another round of funds (roughly \$900,000) for (1) Grove and Highland Street Reconstruction and (2) Housing Rehabilitation. It was approved in July 2014. Athol's housing stock will continue to benefit from the program --- in Athol, almost 50% of the housing stock was constructed before 1940, and much is in need of rehabilitation. Funding from this year's grant will help homeowners on the waiting list make the necessary renovations to their homes. For the infrastructure portion, sidewalks, sewers, and pavement will be refurbished on Grove and the first half of Highland. Some Chapter 90 funds will be used for the infrastructure project as well.

One of the grant requirements was an update of the town's **Community Development Strategy**. It can be found on the town's website on the "Community Development" homepage, or by contacting the Planning Office via phone or email.



North Quabbin Commons, Water Infrastructure, MassWorks, DIF

MassWorks. In collaboration with EDIC, MassDevelopment, the office of the State Representative, and others, the Town of Athol secured a \$1 Million grant from the state Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development. The funds have been used to pay for part of the \$3.6 million water infrastructure project for the North Quabbin Commons development. The state announced on May 5, 2014, that \$1 million would be awarded. The three primary components of the project included:

- ▣ Water Main along Templeton Road
- ▣ Booster Pump Station
- ▣ Water Tower



District Improvement Financing (DIF). To fund the rest of the project costs, Athol voters approved a Fall 2013 Town Meeting plan to designate the 316-acre "North Quabbin Business Park" as a DIF-District.

DIF became an approved local financing mechanism by the Commonwealth in 2003. Essentially, the establishment of a DIF District enables some portion of the public infrastructure expenditures to be paid for by the future incremental property tax revenues generated within the defined district. The Town will see a significant increase in property taxes from Market Basket, for example, and a certain portion – but not all – of the new property taxes will be channeled into the DIF fund rather than the municipality's General Fund, for a period of 10 years or so, to pay off the bond. No new taxes are levied on properties in the district.

Other Grants

North Quabbin Loan Fund. Originally part of an FY2010 Economic Development Fund (EDF) grant, the Town of Athol continues to be the lead manager of the North Quabbin Loan Fund. Funds are available to eligible businesses in the 9-town North Quabbin region. The Planning Office works with RCAP Solutions, Inc., and the North Quabbin Community Coalition to promote the program. While no loans were awarded in FY14, a number have been in the year since.

MIIA: Secured \$5,000 to use toward purchase and installation of the Silver Lake Park security cameras.

Long-Range Planning Projects

Master Plan

Overview. Every ten years a Massachusetts municipality is charged with creating a long-term vision, or blueprint, for the future vitality of the community. A Master Plan's topics include economic development, natural resources, community services, transportation, infrastructure, housing, and land use. The Town of Athol's Board of Planning &



Community Development has been working with the Planning Office to create the plan.

Public Outreach. In addition to data collection (e.g. compiling census data to see how the community is evolving demographically and economically), a significant source of inspiration for the Plan comes from community members. So far, BPCD has co-hosted a few forums to gather ideas, as well circulated an online-survey. This information will help create a draft plan to be available by Spring 2015.

Housing Plan

In early fall 2014, the Town was awarded a DLTA (District Local Technical Assistance) project through MRPC. The Board of Planning and Planning Office worked with Sam Lawton of MRPC to collect data and investigate solutions for various housing-related issues and initiatives. The major issues discussed in the plan are residential vacancy, the aging housing stock, and locations to focus future housing development. For more information about this plan, or to see the draft, please contact the Planning Office.

Downtown Revitalization Projects

Downtown Vitality Committee. In November of 2013, the Board of Selectmen voted to approve a new committee of 7 members. The members are Athol residents interested in generally promoting and advocating on behalf of Downtown Revitalization and aesthetics. One of the initiatives spear-headed by this committee is the Storefront Arts Project, described below.

Storefront Arts Program. The purpose of this downtown initiative is to provide a place for local artists to showcase their work while simultaneously beautifying the downtown area and increasing

attention to available properties. Three artists and three different property owners participated in this pilot project. We hope to bring more artists and properties into the program.



Walk Audit. A joint project between the Planning Office, Board of Health, and Montachusett Public Health Network, the purpose of this project was to observe the positive and negative aspects of the walking (and biking) environment in and around downtown Athol. It took place in April 2014. Results will be used in parts of the Master Plan update.

Slum & Blight Report. This ongoing project started in the Spring of 2014. The Building Inspector and Planning Director, plus the DPW, have evaluated over 250 properties in the "downtown Athol" area as well as infrastructure like roads and sidewalks. The purpose of this report is to potentially receive grant funding to improve the downtown area.

Other Projects

Adaptive Reuse Overlay Zoning. Throughout the summer and fall of 2014, ZBRC, BPCD, the Planning Dept., Building Dept., Town Manager, and Town Attorney drafted a zoning policy with the goal of proactively dealing with vacant town buildings (e.g. elementary schools). Since these schools are located in residential zones, the most restrictive district, the change would allow more creative uses for re-using the facilities. The zoning policy was approved by Town Voters in the October 2014 Meeting.

To the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, and Citizens of Athol:

This is the 2013 - 14 Annual Report of the Sealer of Weights & Measures.

Items tested	Adjusted	Sealed	Not Sealed
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Scales	2	106	2
Weights	0	96	0
Fuel Trucks	0	4	0
Gas Pumps	0	100	0
Bottle Return	0	6	0
Scanning Systems	0	2	0

Total of fees collected is \$3,591.00, which were turned into the Town Treasurer, whose receipts I hold.

Co - operation was received from all merchants, and all complaints were resolved.

J.R. Greene
Sealer of Weights & Measures

CHAPTER FIVE

PUBLIC WORKS

Report of the Department of
Public Works

Report of the Department of Public Works

The Town of Athol Department of Public Works is a consolidated department of 24 full time employees and two part time employees who are responsible for streets, sidewalks, drainage, water and sewer, solid waste and administrative duties. We maintain a roadway network of over 110 miles. We are also responsible for mowing and maintaining 9 cemeteries, 60 acres of parks and ball fields, pruning and removal of town trees. The DPW operates and maintains 4 wells and four water storage tanks. There are also 26 buildings under the DPW's direct responsibility ranging from small sheds to multi-million dollar facilities including a wastewater treatment plant, six wastewater pump stations; two water treatment facilities, two booster pump stations, and a maintenance depot. We also operate the Transfer Station. The Transfer Station is nearing 7 successful years of operation as a full enterprise, self sustaining operation. We now provide a location for disposal of solid waste and demolition and more importantly, provides the opportunity to recycle.

Our current staff represents a significant cut in manpower. In 2003 there were 31 on staff and in the 1980's there were 42. In spite of the cuts in manpower, the need for service has not decreased. Many dedicated volunteers and Senior Tax Abatement participants have helped with the increased maintenance needs. We sincerely appreciate their efforts.

Our normal maintenance activities include; snow & ice control, sweeping

streets and sand removal, pothole patching, cleaning and rebuilding collapsed manholes and catch basins, clearing sewer blockages, reading and repairing water meters, fixing water and sewer pipes, rebuilding pumps and motors, installing signs, mowing grass in parks and cemeteries, burials and roadside brush control, removal of hazardous roadside trees, managing and maintaining a solid waste handling facility and maintaining a fleet of vehicles; as well as maintenance of several buildings. There are also many administrative duties including customer relations, water and sewer billing, cemetery records, grant coordination, project preparation, review and inspection; contract preparation and bidding; environmental permitting and many other miscellaneous tasks.

The following are just some of the many projects that have been in progress or completed in fiscal 2014:

Started the installation of the new water main, booster pump station, and water storage tank for the Athol Commons project.

Replaced 5 fire hydrants

Completed installation of 700' of water main on Twitchell Street with new ductile iron pipe.

Continued replacement/conversion of all water meters to allow for radio read meter reading.

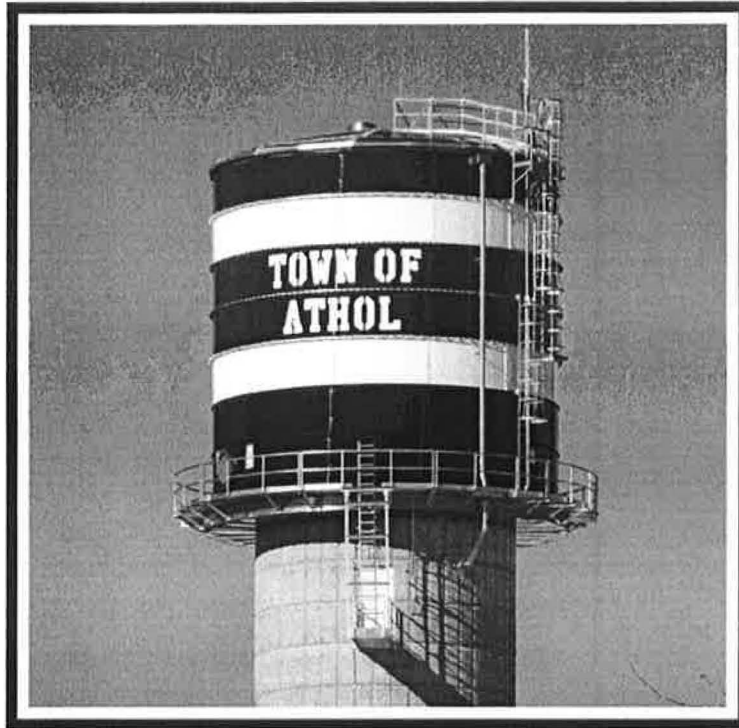
Repaired/Coated the roof on the South Street treatment facility

Completed the repairs to the Pinedale
Ave. bridge.

Completed paving of Pinedale Road, S.
Athol from Morton Street to N.
Riverview and S. Riverview to
Partridgeville Road, and Partridgeville
Rd. to Gage Road.

Respectfully,

**THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
WORKS**



**Town of Athol Water Division
2014 Water Quality Report
Public Water Supply Identification Number 1015000**

The Town of Athol Water Division once again is pleased to tell you our water system had another successful year of supplying you with the highest quality of water. This was all made possible with the team of professional staff here within the Town of Athol Department of Public Works. The following staff is committed to working hard as a team to assure you're provided with water of the highest quality and can be contacted at 978-249-4542.

Public Works Superintendent

Douglas A. Walsh

Assistant Superintendent

Duane Truehart

Administrative Clerk

Diana Cooley

Water Department Staff

Water & Sewer Foreman

Andrew Tessier

Treatment Operator

Robert Hughes

Utility Foreman

Thomas Wheeler (Retired 11/14/14)

Distribution Operators

David Carr
Andrew Belloli

SOURCES OF SUPPLY

The Town of Athol has four (4) groundwater sources all located in the downtown area. Water is pumped from three (3) of these sources to the Public Works facility for treatment, before being distributed through the 56 miles of distribution lines to your homes. The fourth groundwater source has a treatment facility of its own located off of Jones Street.

All of these sources pump from downtown to the uptown area where a booster station is provided to assist in the filling of the storage tanks and supply the distribution system with an adequate supply of water.

Projects Completed in 2014

- Continued replacement of fire hydrants
- Continued replacement of water meters with radio reads.
- Complete overhaul of So. St. carbon vessel #2
- Replaced 700 ft of water main on Twitchell St.
- Completed the Templeton Road Booster station and water storage along with approximately 3500 ft of water main
- Refurbished So St well building roof

Projects Scheduled for 2015

- Phase #1 water main replacement Grove St and Highland St area
- Continue replacement and /or installation of water meter radio reads
- Upgrade of So. St. chlorination system



Water Cost in 2014, \$3.77 p/100 cubic feet = 750 Gallons

WATER CONSERVATION

There are several ways you can help to conserve water, lower your cost and replenish our valuable resource.

- Don't let water run while washing cars
- Don't let water run while brushing your teeth
- Check for leaking toilets by placing food coloring in the tank and see if it ends up in the bowl.
- Contact the Department of Public Works for assistance at 978-249-4542

You can replenish our resources by removing roof drains and sump pumps from sanitary sewers and divert water to your back yards allowing water to naturally flow back into the ground.

And did you know it is actually illegal to have your sump pumps and roof drains connected to the town's sanitary sewer.



Garfield Tank

Source Water Assessment Plan

In 2003, a source water assessment plan was updated and prepared for the town to protect our water supplies. The program is to prevent any further contamination of our sources. Restrictions are in place to prevent hazardous materials and facilities from being allowed within the established protection zones. Our local agencies work very closely with the Public Works Department to prevent any type of contamination.

To receive a copy of the source water assessment plan please contact the Department of Public Works at 584 Main Street-Room 24, Athol, MA 01331.

“The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs & wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity”.

All drinking water, including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of some contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the environmental agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Contaminants That May Be Present In Source Water.....

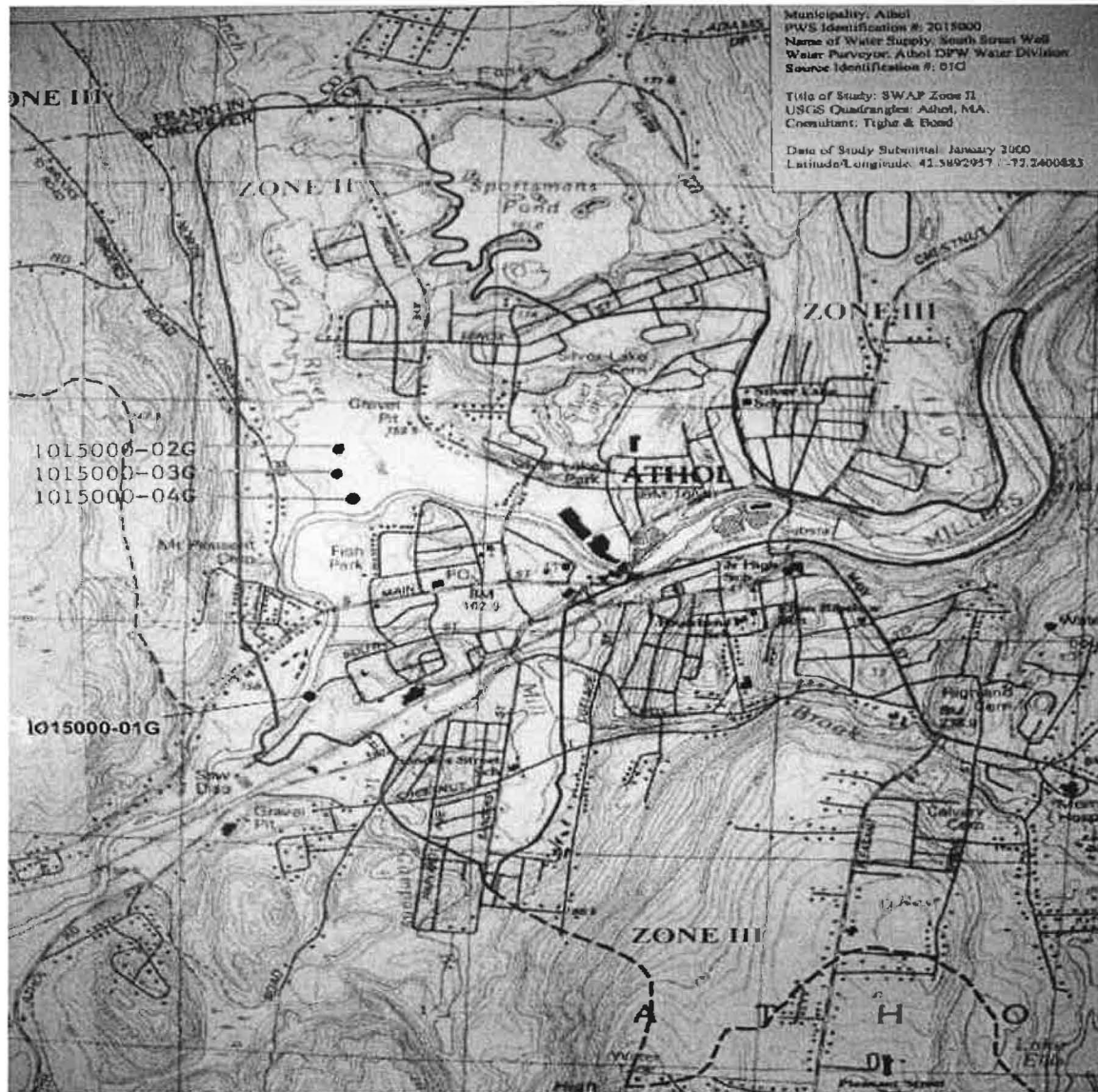
- Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewerage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Pesticides and Herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Inorganic Chemical Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive Contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Notice of non-compliance

In 2014 the Athol water department received two notices of non-compliance. One was for failure to use the proper certification form for the 2013 CCR. The second one was for failure to submit an unaccounted for water equivalence plan, for 2011 and 2013 this was required for not meeting the 10% annual unaccounted for water requirement. A plan was submitted in May 2014 in response to the notice of non-compliance.

Protection of the Water System

The Public Works Department and Local Agencies can only provide a certain amount of protection without the help of you the resident and consumer. We ask that you assist us in protecting our valuable water resources by reporting any illegal dumping of gasoline, oil or other hazardous materials on to the ground by calling the Public Works Office at 978-249-4542. Reports of suspicious activity around the Water Department Buildings or Water Storage Tanks please contact the local Police Department at 978-249-3232



Zone II is the Department of Environmental Protection approved primary recharge area for our aquifer. It is very important to protect the land within zone II to avoid contamination to our water supply from improper disposal of hazardous materials from residential, commercial and industrial facilities.

Cross Connection Program

A cross connection is an actual or potential interconnection between a drinking water line and any source of pollution or contamination such as a piping arrangement that allows drinking water to come in contact with non drinking water, chemicals gases or other potentially harmful substances. Plumbing cross connections exist whenever a pipe carrying drinking water has a direct physical connection to a source of potentially harmful materials.

Examples of Cross Connections:



- A water feed to a boiler
- A water line feed to a chemical tank
- A garden hose connected to an outside spigot and one end submerged below the surface of a swimming pool
- A garden hose with a fertilizer/pesticide spray attachment
- A hose connected to sink faucet and under low pressure situations could possibly back-siphon

These are just a few examples that could occur if there was a pressure drop in the distribution system due to a water break, causing the back siphonage of these hazardous materials into the water system.

How can you help to prevent some cross connections?

You can assist the water system and every potential user by installing Hose Bibb Vacuum Breakers on all threaded faucets in and outside of your home. These devices will prevent hazardous water from being siphoned back into your home.

Our staff, survey all **Commercial, Industrial, Municipal and Institutional** buildings for hazardous cross connections. Once surveyed owners of these facilities either eliminate the cross connection or install the appropriate device(s) for protection against the back syphonage of the hazard within their facility. On a regular basis our staff will visit each facility and test the backflow devices to insure they are functioning appropriately. If your Facility has already undergone a survey and you alter your plumbing in any way, you need to notify the Athol Department of Public Works to determine if a new survey is necessary.

Understanding this Report

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

The Athol Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. This report covers the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. The water division wants you to understand all drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

Definitions of Unit Measurements and Terms

In the tables to follow a variety of unit measurements will be used to describe the amount of a certain contaminant detected in the samples collected and tested. Below is a list of Measurements and terms with definitions to assist you in understanding the chart.

Distribution System – The network of pipes and valves that carry water from the treatment plant to the homes and businesses where water is used.

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) – The state agency responsible for setting and enforcing drinking water regulations in Massachusetts.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Contaminant Level Goal (MRDLG) –

The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known expected risk to health. MRDLG'S do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/l) – One part per million corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or a single penny in \$10,000.00.

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/l) – A measurement of radioactivity in water.

Micrograms per Liter (Ug/l) - parts per billion

Water Quality Testing:

Below are substances that were detected in the town's drinking water during the past 5 years. None of these substances were detected above the allowable limit.

Range of Dates	Contaminant	Highest Detect Value	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source
01/01/14 12/31/14	Fluoride	1.2 ppm	0.8 -1.2 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits: Added to water for dental hygiene
Fluoride is a naturally occurring element in many water supplies in trace amounts. In our system the fluoride level is adjusted to an optimal level averaging one part per million (ppm or mg/l) to improve oral health in children. At this level, it is safe, odorless, colorless, and tasteless. Our water system has been providing this treatment since 1960. There are over 3.9 million people in 140 Massachusetts water systems and 184 million people in the United States who receive health and economic benefits of fluoridation.							
05/20/14	Nitrate	1.4 ppm	1.2-1.4 ppm	10.0 ppm	10.0 ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks.

Bacteria Testing

	Highest # Positive in a month	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	None	1	0	N	Naturally present in the environment
E.Coli	None	*	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste

*Compliance with the E.coli MCL is determined upon additional repeat testing.

Unregulated Inorganic

Range of Dates	Contaminant	Highest Detect Value	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source
05/20/14	Sodium	78 ppm	41 - 78 ppm	None	Zero	N	Winter deicing operations
09/21/11	Sulfate	9.5 ppm	8.3-9.5 ppm	None	Zero	N	Natural Deposits
04/20/11	Barium	.018 ppm	0.014-0.018 ppm	2.0 ppm	Zero	N	Natural Deposits
05/20/14	Manganese	0.0051 ppm	0.0023-0.0051 ppm	0.05 ppm	Zero	N	Natural Deposits

Volatile Organic Compounds

Range of Dates	Contaminant	Highest Detect Value	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source
02/18/13-10/15/2013	Trichloroethylene	0.69 ug/l	0.52 ug/l-0.69 ug/l	5.0 ug/l	Zero	N	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
02/18/14	Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MBTE)	0.79 ug/l	0.79 ug/l	70 ug/l	70 ug/l ORSGL*	NA	Fuel Additive; leaks and spills from gasoline storage tanks

* Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards as adopted a guideline of 70 ug/l as a health protective concentration for MBTE and Drinking Water

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Range Of Dates	Substance	Highest Value Detected	Range Detected	Highest Quarterly Average	MRDL	MRDLG	Annual Quarterly Running Average	Sources
Monthly 2014	Residual Chlorine	2.11 ppm	.02-2.11 ppm	0.50 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.47 ppm	Additive to Control Bacteria

Range of Dates		Highest Value Detected	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source
02/18/14-11/18/14	Halo acetic Acids	8.5 ug/l	0.53 – 8.5 ug/l	60 ug/l	zero	N	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
02/18/14-11/18/14	Trihalomethanes	24.0 ug/l	13.0-24.0 ug/l	80 ug/l	zero	N	By-Product of drinking water Chlorination

Special sampling of the Athol Commons water storage tank detected Trihalomethanes of 17.13 ug/l, this was a by-product of the tank disinfection process.

Nitrates: Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and Blue Baby Syndrome.

The Town of Athol Water Division was granted a sampling waiver for Inorganic Compound on February 28, 2012 and for Synthetic Organic Compound on April 30, 2012.

LEAD AND COPPER

Understand the source water and water within the distribution system is lead free. However, some of the older homes when they were built had plumbing installed that may have lead soldered joints or lead and copper pipes as part of their plumbing. When water is allowed to remain in these pipes for a period of time the lead and copper can dissolve into the water. The Town of Athol treats their water to prevent this process from occurring.

“If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Athol is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

The following results are from August 12, 2014 testing:

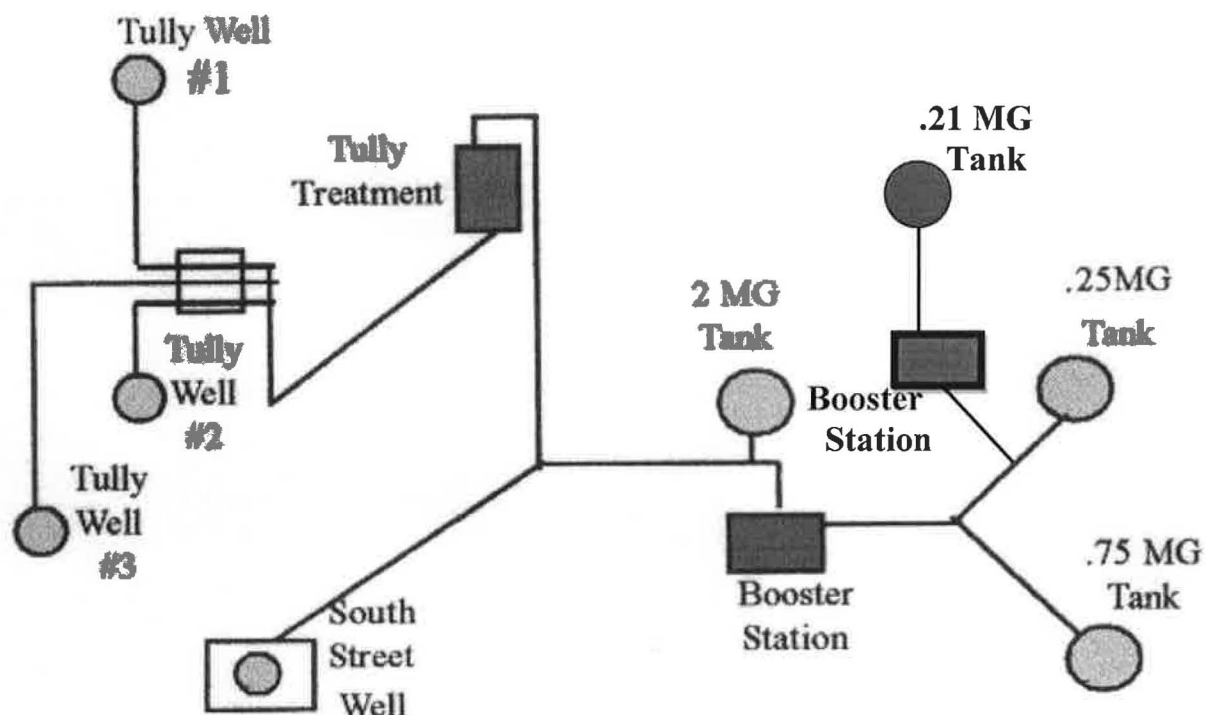
Parameter	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	90th %> AL Yes/No	# of Sites Sampled	# of Sites Above AL	% of Sites Above AL
Lead (ppm)	0.015	0.0052	No	20	1	5
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.010	No	20	None	Zero

Likely source for corrosion of lead & copper is household plumbing:

The 90th percentile means, of every 10-sample sites, 9 are at or below that number.

Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

OVERVIEW OF THE SYSTEM



If you have any questions about this report or would like to know more about your water utility, please contact the Department of Public Works office at 584 Main St. Room 24 Athol, MA 01331 or by calling 978-249-4542.
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesday 8:00am – 8:00pm
Friday Office is Closed
A member of our professional staff will be more than happy to answer any questions you might have.

Copies of this report will be available at the Town Clerk's Office, the Town of Athol Web site at <http://www.athol-ma.gov> and Department of Public Works at 584 Main Street, Athol MA.

CHAPTER
SIX
ELECTIONS &
TOWN
MEETINGS

Report of the Election Officers
& Town Clerk

**FALL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2013**

The 2013 Fall Town Meeting was held on October 21, 2013 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 247 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 121; Precinct 2, 75; and Precinct 3, 73. Total present: 269

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Kenneth Vaidulas.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

John Bisbee – He was a member of the Conservation Commission for 33 years, Oct. 1980 to July 2013.

Barbara Warner – She was the secretary for the Veteran's Office from September 1986 to February 1998.

Charles G. Wirth, Jr. – He served on the Athol Conservation Commission having written two natural resource programs for the Town in the 1970's.

Cathy Robuccio – She was a teacher in Athol for 35 years teaching third and fourth grade at Silver Lake School and she retired in 2009 from Sanders Street School.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the October 21, 2013 Fall Town Meeting.

Article 1: On the Motion of Ken Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town will amend the Town Bylaws by adding Chapter VII – Miscellaneous Licenses and Fees, Civil Fingerprinting as follows:

CHAPTER VII: Miscellaneous Licenses and Fees

11. Civil Fingerprinting

11.1. Criminal History Check Authorization

11.1.1. The Athol Police Department shall, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 6, Section 172 B 1/2, conduct State and Federal Fingerprint Based Criminal History checks for individuals applying for the following licenses:

11.1.1.1. Hawking and Peddling or other Door-to-Door Salespeople

11.1.1.2. Manager of Alcoholic Beverage License

11.1.1.3. Owner or Operator of Public Conveyance

11.1.1.4. Dealer of Second-hand Articles

11.1.1.5. Pawn Dealers

11.1.1.6. Hackney Drivers

- 11.1.1.7. Ice Cream Truck Vendors
- 11.1.1.8. Applicant of Adult Entertainment License
- 11.1.1.9. Applicant of a registered Marijuana Dispensary
- 11.1.2. At the time of fingerprinting, the Police Department shall notify the individual fingerprinted that the fingerprints will be used to check the individual's criminal history records.
- 11.1.3. The Police Chief shall periodically check with the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security ("EOPSS") which has issued an Informational Bulletin which explains the requirements for town by-laws and the procedures for obtaining criminal history information, to see if there have been any updates to be sure the Town remains in compliance.
- 11.1.4. Upon receipt of the fingerprints and the appropriate fee, the Police Department shall transmit the fingerprints it has obtained pursuant to this by-law to the Identification Section of the Massachusetts State Police, the Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Services (DCJIS), and/or the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or the successors of such agencies as may be necessary for the purpose of conducting fingerprint-based state and national criminal records background checks of license applicants specified in this by-law.
- 11.1.5. The Town authorizes the Massachusetts State Police, the Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Systems (DCJIS), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and their successors, as may be applicable, to conduct fingerprint-based state and national criminal record background checks, including FBI records, consistent with this by-law.
- 11.1.6. The Town authorizes the Athol Police Department to receive and utilize State and FBI records in connection with such background checks, consistent with this by-law.
- 11.1.7. The State and FBI criminal history will not be disseminated to unauthorized entities.
- 11.1.8. Upon receipt of a report from the FBI or other appropriate criminal justice agency, a record subject may request and receive a copy of his/her criminal history record from the Police Department. Should the record subject seek to amend or correct his/her record, he/she must take appropriate action to correct said record, which action currently includes contacting the Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Services (DCJIS) for a state record or the FBI for records from other jurisdictions maintained in its file. An applicant that wants to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the record shall be advised that the procedures to change, correct, or update the record are set forth in Title 28 CFR 16.34. The Police Department shall not utilize and/or transmit the results of the fingerprint-based criminal record background check to any licensing authority pursuant to this by-law until it has taken the steps detailed in this paragraph. Municipal officials should not deny an applicant the license based on information in

the record until the applicant has been afforded a reasonable time to correct or complete the information, or has declined to do so.

11.1.9. The Police Department shall communicate the results of fingerprint-based criminal record background checks to the appropriate governmental licensing authority within the Town as listed. The Police Department shall indicate whether the applicant has been convicted of, or is awaiting final adjudication for, a crime that bears upon his or her suitability or any felony or misdemeanor that involved force or threat of force, controlled substances or a sex-related offense.

11.1.10. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to promulgate regulations for the implementation of the proposed by-law, but in doing so it is recommended that they consult with the Chief of Police, Town Counsel and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (or its successor agency) to ensure that such regulations are consistent with the statute, the FBI's requirements for access to the national database, and other applicable state laws.

11.2. Use of Criminal Record by Licensing Authorities

11.2.1. Licensing authorities of the Town of Athol shall utilize the results of fingerprint-based criminal record background checks for the sole purpose of determining the suitability of the subjects of the checks in connection with the license applications specified in this by-law.

11.2.2. A Town licensing authority may deny an application for a license on the basis of the results of a fingerprint-based criminal record background check if it determines that the results of the check render the subject unsuitable for the proposed occupational activity.

11.2.3. The licensing authority shall consider all applicable laws, regulations and Town policies bearing on an applicant's suitability in making this determination.

11.2.4. The Town or any of its officers, departments, boards, committees or other licensing authorities is hereby authorized to deny any application for, including renewals and transfers thereof, for any person who is determined unfit for the license, as determined by the licensing authority, due to information obtained pursuant to this by-law.

11.3. Fees

11.3.1. The fee charged by the Police Department for the purpose of conducting fingerprint-based criminal record background checks shall be sixty dollars (\$60). The Town Treasurer shall periodically consult with Town Counsel and the Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services regarding the proper municipal accounting of those fees.

11.3.2. A portion of the fee, as specified in Mass. Gen. Laws Chapter 6, Section 172B 1/2, shall be deposited into the Firearms Fingerprint Identity Verification Trust Fund, and the remainder of the fee may be retained by the Town to be expended by the Police Department to help offset costs associated with the administration of the

fingerprinting system, subject to Town Meeting appropriation or deposited in a revolving account.

11.4. Effective Date

11.4.1. This by-law shall take effect upon approval by the Attorney General, so long as the requirements of G.L. c. 40 sec. 32 are satisfied. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2: On the motion of Ben J. Feldman , it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.5, Dimensional Measurements, by deleting the following language:

2.5 Dimensional Measurements

2.5.1 No part of any yard or other open space required for the purpose of complying with the provisions of this by-law shall be included as part of a yard or other open space similarly required for another building.

2.5.2 In all districts except the CA District, a corner lot shall provide visibility unobstructed at intersections. No sign, fence, wall, tree, ledge, or other vegetation, and no building or other structure shall be more than three and one-half feet and less than six feet above the established street grade within the area formed by the intersecting street lines and a straight line joining said street lines at a point which is twenty-five (25) feet distant from the point of intersection measured along said street lines.

2.5.3 In the case of corner lots, structures shall be set back from streets the minimum front yard distance for the entire length of lot frontage. In the case of through or reverse frontage lots, unless the prevailing front yard pattern on adjoining lots indicates otherwise, minimum front yards shall be provided on all frontages.

2.5.4 Corner, through and reverse frontage lots shall have no real lot lines or yards, but only front and side lot lines and yards.

2.5.5 On a corner lot, the length of lot frontage shall be equal to twice the required frontage, and shall be measured along the tangents to the front lot line from the points of intersection of the side lot lines to the point where the tangents intersect.

2.5.6 On a lot having frontage separated by intervening land, the frontage may not be added together to comply with the minimum lot frontage requirements.
Amendment effective May 4, 1987.

And replacing it with the following:

2.5 Dimensional Measurements

2.5.1 No part of any yard or other open space required for the purpose of complying with the provisions of this by-law shall be included as part of a yard or other open space similarly required for another building.

- 2.5.2 Signs, fences, walls, trees, ledges, or other vegetation, and buildings or other structures running perpendicular to sidewalks or roads shall not be allowed to block vision over two and one half feet above the sidewalk or road grade for a distance of fifteen feet along driveways immediate in location.
- 2.5.3 In all districts except the CA District, a corner lot shall provide visibility unobstructed at intersections. No sign, fence, wall, tree, ledge, or other vegetation, and no building or other structure shall be more than three and one-half feet in height, and the total height shall be less than six feet above the established street grade within the area formed by the intersecting street lines and a straight line joining said street lines at a point which is twenty-five (25) feet distant from the point of intersection measured along said street lines.
- 2.5.4 In the case of corner lots, structures shall be set back from streets the minimum front yard distance for the entire length of lot frontage. In the case of through or reverse frontage lots, unless the prevailing front yard pattern on adjoining lots indicates otherwise, minimum front yards shall be provided on all frontages.
- 2.5.5 Corner, through and reverse frontage lots shall have no real lot lines or yards, but only front and side lot lines and yards.
- 2.5.6 On a corner lot, the length of lot frontage shall be equal to twice the required frontage, and shall be measured along the tangents to the front lot line from the points of intersection of the side lot lines to the point where the tangents intersect.
- 2.5.7 On a lot having frontage separated by intervening land, the frontage may not be added together to comply with the minimum lot frontage requirements.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 188 yes and 13 no.

Article 3: On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 3.19.4, the sixth bullet item, by deleting the following language:

- description of compliance with the citing criteria set forth below in sections 3.19.6, 3.19.7, and 3.19.8; and

And replacing it with the following:

- description of compliance with the siting criteria set forth below in sections 3.19.6, 3.19.7, and 3.19.8; and

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 229 yes and 1 no.

Article 4: On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 3.19.5, by deleting the following language:

3.19.5 Adult Entertainment Use Special Permit shall be issued to any applicant, or the representative of an owner, operator, or manager of an adult entertainment

facility who has been convicted of violating the provisions or Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 119, Section 63 (Inducing or abetting delinquency of a child) or Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 272 (Crimes against chastity, morality, decency and good order) or equivalent statutes in other jurisdictions. The applicant shall include authorization for the Town to confirm criminal record information through the appropriate authorities.

And replacing it with the following:

3.19.5 Adult Entertainment Use Special Permit shall not be issued to any applicant, or the representative of an owner, operator, or manager of an adult entertainment facility who has been convicted of violating the provisions or Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 119, Section 63 (Inducing or abetting delinquency of a child) or Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 272 (Crimes against chastity, morality, decency and good order) or equivalent statutes in other jurisdictions. The applicant shall include authorization for the Town to confirm criminal record information through the appropriate authorities.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 228 yes and 1 no.

Article 5: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule, by deleting, under the category of RESIDENTIAL USES, the sub-category Assisted Living Facilities/Residences/Communities:

	Residence A	Residence B	Residence C	Central Commercial	Neighborhood Commercial	General Commercial	Industrial Commercial
<u>2.3 Use Regulation Schedule</u>	<u>RA</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>RC</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>CB</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>I</u>
RESIDENTIAL USES							
Assisted Living	SP	N	SP	N	N	SP	SP
Facilities/Residences/Communities							

And replacing it with the following:

	Industrial Commercial	General Commercial	Neighborhood Commercial	Central Commercial	Residence C	Residence B	Residence A
<u>2.3 Use Regulation Schedule</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>CB</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>RC</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>RA</u>

RESIDENTIAL USES

Assisted Living Facilities/Residences/Communities	SP	SP	SP	N	N	SP	SP
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And to further amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.4.2 by deleting the following language;

- 2.4.2 No more than one principal building shall be permitted per lot with the following exceptions:
1. Industrial and commercial developments in the Industrial Commercial District
 2. Industrial and commercial developments for lots that the town has received Chapter 43D, Expedited Permitting designation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 3. Assisted Living Facilities/Residences/Communities in all zoning districts for which they are permitted.
- These exceptions shall require a Special Permit as provided for in section 1.2.6.

And replacing it with the following:

- 2.4.2 No more than one principal building shall be permitted per lot with the following exceptions:
1. Industrial and commercial developments in the Industrial Commercial District
 2. Industrial and commercial developments for lots that the town has received Chapter 43D, Expedited Permitting designation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 3. Assisted Living Facilities/Residences/Communities in zoning districts Residence A (RA), Residence C (RC), General Commercial (G), and Industrial Commercial (I).
- These exceptions shall require a Special Permit as provided for in section 1.2.6.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 218 yes and 12 no.

Article 6: On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish an Ambulance Subscription program with all funds collected from subscribers of this program directed into Ambulance Reserve account. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 7: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to file with the Massachusetts General Court a petition for special legislation to remove the part-time call firefighters of the

Athol Fire Department from the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 31 the civil service law and regulations promulgated thereunder, provided that such legislation shall not impair the civil service status of incumbents in the position of call firefighter upon the effective date of such legislation; or take any action relative thereto. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 8: On the Motion of Ben J. Feldman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H to authorize the Board of Assessors, on behalf of the Town of Athol, to negotiate and enter into a Payment In Lieu Of Tax agreement (PILOT) with the lessee/operator of the solar photovoltaic energy generating facility at Adams Farm property, located at 854 Bearsden Road and shown on Assessor's Map 37 Lot 55, upon such terms as the Board of Assessors shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 9: On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town abandon and relinquish all rights to easements associated with water lines, associated with property commonly referred to as the "Poor Farm", recorded in Worcester South District Registry of Deeds, Book 1709, Page 199, and conveyed by the former Athol Water Company to the "Inhabitants of the Town of Athol" as voted at a Town Meeting on December 17, 1904. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 10: On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept a parcel of land on Island Street as located on Athol Assessors Map 30, Lot 163, and recorded as a Land Court Document on March 8, 1941 at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 14, Certificate No. 2674. Such property shall be restricted for the future use of the library. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 11: On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept a parcel of land at Crescent Street, Parcel A, of a plan recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds on August 19, 2013, Plan Book 902 Plan 47, 12,800 square feet. Said parcel is a portion of Athol Assessors Map 30, Parcel 180 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 1948, Page 399 on November 10, 1910. Such property shall be restricted for the future use of the library. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 12: On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate by borrowing \$400,000 to pay costs of creating the Miller's River Park Recreational Area, which will include recreational amenities and the purchase of property for recreational purposes either by eminent domain or negotiated purchase or otherwise; including certain property located at 182 Marble Street Book 47931, Page 40, and 194 Marble Street Book 47372, Page 33 and 55 Island Street, Book 47372, Book 33, recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds and that said parcels conveyed to the Town of Athol under the provisions of the Massachusetts General laws Chapter 45, Section 3 and as it may hereafter be amended and other Massachusetts Statutes relating to recreation uses, to be managed and controlled by the Athol Department of Public Works and the Trustees of the Athol Public Library; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3) and Section 7(25) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds and

notes of the Town therefore; that the appropriate officials of the Town and the Trustees of the Athol Public Library are authorized to file on behalf of the Town of Athol any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from The Commonwealth of Massachusetts deemed necessary under the Urban Self-Help Act (301 CMR 5.00) and/or any others in any way connected with the scope of this Article, and the appropriate officials of the Town and The Trustees of the Athol Public Library are authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Athol to affect said project. It is the expectation of the Town that seventy percent of the funds expended by the Town for the Miller's River Park Recreational Area will be reimbursed by funds provided by the Commonwealth, and that the remaining thirty percent may be covered under a Federal grant program and if such a program is ineligible for such federal funding, the remaining thirty percent will be provided through a grant from the Athol Library Building Fund. As such, any borrowing authorized by this vote shall be reduced to the extent of any such grants or gifts received by the Town. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 208 yes and 30 no.*

Article 13: No Motion. No Action taken on "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to amend the fiscal year 2014 Capital Improvement Plan as voted by the Capital Program Committee".

Article 14: No Motion. No Action taken on "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or to transfer a sum of money from the water enterprise retained earnings for partial funding of a vehicle for the water & sewer division as voted by the Capital Planning Committee".

Article 15: No Motion. No Action taken on "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or to transfer a sum of money from the sewer enterprise retained earnings for partial funding of a vehicle for the water & sewer division as voted by the Capital Planning Committee".

Article 16: On the Motion of Alan Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town raise and appropriate from taxation \$28,483.67 to supplement the FY14 general budget and that \$5,000 be added to the Elections & Registration budget and that \$23,483.67 be added to various departmental budgets for personal services to eliminate four scheduled furlough days as detailed below:

Department	Amount
Election and Registration	\$ 5,000.00
Town Clerk	\$ 1,878.52
Assessors	\$ 1,650.79
Treasurer/Collector	\$ 2,311.28
Board of Selectmen	\$ 816.25
Town Manager	\$ 1,555.49
Town Hall	\$ 629.07
Board of Health	\$ 1,583.93
Building Department	\$ 1,665.89

Inspector of Wires	\$ 401.35
DPW	\$ 2,546.66
Accountant	\$ 1,831.83
Council on Aging	\$ 755.32
Planner	\$ 367.36
Police	\$ 2,950.45
Fire	<u>\$ 2,539.48</u>
	\$ 23,483.67

TOTAL **\$ 28,483.67**

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 17: No Motion. No Action taken on "To see if the Town will vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32 Section 103(j), as amended by Section 19 of Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010, to approve the Athol Contributory Retirement System's acceptance of an increase to the base amount for calculating retiree cost of living increases to \$13,000".

Article 18: No Motion. No Action taken on "To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 32B, Section 20 authorizing the Town Treasurer to establish a separate fund to be known as the "Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund". The purpose of the fund to reduce the unfunded actuarial liability of health care and other post-employment benefits to zero as of an actuarially acceptable period of years and to meet normal cost of all such future benefits for which the Town of Athol is obligated. And further, to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for such fund".

Article 19: On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town designate a Development District consisting of 316 acres, more or less, bounded by Route 2, Route 2A and Route 32, as more fully described on the plan entitled "North Quabbin Business Park DIF Plan" and filed in the office of the Town Clerk, and make all applicable findings necessary to create such district, as required by Chapter 40Q of the General Laws. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 20: On the Motion of Alan Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town adopt a Development Program for such district, in such form as set forth in the North Quabbin Business Park DIF Plan and filed in the office of the Town Clerk. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 21: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate by borrowing \$3,065,000 to pay costs of extending the Town's water system to the North Quabbin Business Park Development District, so-called, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that the meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 40Q, Section 4 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue general obligation bonds and/or notes of the Town therefore. *Required 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 232 yes and 6 no.*

Article 22: On the Motion of Alan Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate by borrowing \$16,279,743 for the purpose of paying costs for the design and construction of a new Athol Elementary School, Pleasant Street, Athol, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years, and for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Town, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town; provided further that any grant that Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) eighty percent (80%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2½); and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 225 yes and 25 no.*

Article 23: On the Motion of Guarang Patel, it was **DEFEATED:** That the Town authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to file with the Massachusetts General Court a petition for special legislation to allow a fourth license in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 138 Section 15 (All Alcohol Off-Premise) commonly referred to as a "Package Store License" to only be issued to Guarang Patel for retail sale at the restricted location of Country Convenience, 49 S. Main St., Athol. Said license not to be transferable. *Defeated by a majority vote.*

Petition Article

Article 24: On the Motion of Samantha Spates, it was **DEFEATED:** That the Town shall stop putting fluoride or fluoride compounds into the public water supply. *Defeated by a majority vote.*

Meeting dissolved at 10:41 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham
Town Clerk

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2014**

The 2014 Special Town Meeting was held on January 13, 2014 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 591 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 247; Precinct 2, 174; and Precinct 3, 170. Total present: 591

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Kenneth Vaidulas.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

J. Edmund Chiasson – He was a Constable for the Town of Athol from 1954 to 2005.

Richard E. Shine – He was a firefighter for the Town of Athol for many years.

Robert Banks Coyle, Jr. – He was a teacher at the Athol Junior High School from 1856-1957 and 1962-1988. He founded the Athol Bird and Nature Club in 1963 and served as its president for 25 years. He served on the Athol Shade Tree Commission from 1967-1991.

The Moderator led with the Pledge of Allegiance and then stated that the meeting was run under “Town Meeting Time”.

The Moderator recognized Mark Wright for his services in assisting the Town in acquiring a new sound system. Mr. Wright gave instructions to the voters on the new sound system.

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham swore in the tellers: Richard Godin, John Maroni, Calvin Taylor, Paul Forand, Peter Lanteigne and Albert Mailloux, Jr.

The following is a true record of the vote taken at the January 13, Special Town Meeting.

Article 1: On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was VOTED: That the Town amend the vote adopted under Article 22 of the Warrant at the Town Meeting held on October 21, 2013, to appropriate and authorize the borrowing of the entire cost of the Athol Elementary School Project \$43,931,363, as required by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), rather than the anticipated net share of such costs appropriated and authorized to be borrowed by the Town under said Article 22 (\$16,279,743), which increased appropriation shall be reduced by all grants received on account of the project from the MSBA, resulting in no change to the Town’s anticipated net share of total project costs. *Required a 2/3rd’s vote. The vote was 477 yes and 94 no. Motion passes.*

Meeting dissolved at 8:20 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 9, 2014**

The 2014 Annual Town Meeting was held on June 9, 2014 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 84 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 34; Precinct 2, 24; and Precinct 3, 28. Total present: 86.

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Randy Mitchell.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

Charles Evashousky - He was an officer of the Athol Police Department in the 1970's

Dominic F. Erali – He was a teacher at Athol High School for 17 years

Paul F. Savoy, Sr. – He was an evening custodian at the Athol High School beginning on March 10, 1976. He was promoted to head custodian at Riverbend School on October 17, 1984 and retired January 1, 1991.

Jesse C. Worrick, Jr. – He was on the Board of Registrars of Voters from 1979-2003.

Anne M. Killay – She was a Selectwoman for the Town of Athol from 1988-1994, a Library Trustee from 1982-1986, and an election worker

Clinton W. Smith – He was a call firefighter for the Athol Fire Department for 30 years and an election worker.

The Board of Selectmen handed out the Annual Margaret Grazis Awards:

Employee of the Year – Ronny Cote, Athol Police Department Detective

Citizen of the Year – Kenneth Duffy, Chairman of the Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee

The Moderator recognized Brian King, a Junior at Monty Tech who built the 2 new podiums being used at Town Meeting. Brian began working on the podiums in January and put approximately 140 hours into making them.

The following is a true record of the votes taken at the June 9, 2014 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 1 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol choose all necessary Town Officers not already elected. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 2 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town review and act upon the reports of Town Offices and to receive the reports of any committee. *Passed by a majority vote. Kenneth Duffy, FWAC Chairman, read a report from the Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee.*

- Article 3** On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all donations and gifts received and turned into the treasury during fiscal year 2015. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 4** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all cemetery and other funds received and provided to the treasury during fiscal year 2015. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 5** On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2015 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 6** On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen and or the Town Manager to apply for, accept and expend any and all State and Federal grants for fiscal year 2015, for which no additional appropriation by the Town is required. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 7** On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$12,998,331 to fund the fiscal year 2015 budget to be funded as follows: \$12,644,631 from taxation; transfer \$250,000 from free cash; transfer \$35,000 from Cemetery Trust Fund; transfer \$15,000 from parking meter receipt account; transfer \$500 from Cemetery Lot Sales; transfer \$20,500 from Pothole Grant; and transfer \$32,700 from Prior Year Storm Reimbursement;

Division/Department	FY13	FY14	FY15	% DIF
Finance				
Accountant	103,839	107,215	113,721	6.07
Assessor	115,187	112,526	116,581	3.60
FWAC	126,450	126,200	75,000	-40.57
Capital Planning Committee	1,270	1,020	1,020	0
Collector/Treasurer	2,952,364	3,788,753	4,021,004	6.13
Subtotal	3,299,110	4,135,714	4,327,326	4.63
Public Safety				
Building Inspector	100,484	104,409	107,485	2.95
Fire Department	1,730,804	1,646,799	1,680,935	2.07
Health Department	111,030	104,398	108,968	4.38
Police Department	1,652,541	1,674,909	1,700,033	1.50
Sealer of Weights and Measures	7,765	7,485	7,485	0
Wire Inspector	26,731	28,013	29,147	4.05
Subtotal	3,629,355	3,566,013	3,634,053	1.91
Public Services				
Board of Selectmen	530,051	587,329	622,020	5.91
Council on Aging	118,471	126,867	110,616	-12.81
Conservation Commission	13,800	10,400	8,300	-20.19
Contributory Retirement	1,181,995	1,373,233	1,573,182	14.56
Elections & Registration	24,494	14,294	23,100	61.61
Library	442,864	454,644	464,545	2.18
Parking	12,593	10,175	10,175	0
Personnel Board	350	0	0	0
Planning Board	1,850	1,800	1,500	-16.67
Planning /CDBG	100,710	86,208	85,913	-.34

Professional Services	144,610	159,587	157,633	-1.22
Recreation	49,873	27,200	29,300	7.72
Beaches	22,675	23,639	24,985	5.69
Town Buildings	117,948	125,888	124,816	-.85
Town Clerk	117,303	120,692	124,502	3.16
Town Manager	154,269	113,757	106,750	-6.16
Veterans	181,901	158,794	210,000	32.25
Zoning Board of Appeals	4,230	2,230	2,050	-8.07
Subtotal	3,219,987	3,396,737	3,679,387	8.32
<u>Public Works</u>	<u>1,418,830</u>	<u>1,362,986</u>	<u>1,357,565</u>	<u>-.40</u>
	11,567,282	\$12,461,450	12,998,331	4.31%

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 8 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy and reconsidered and amended by Stephen Raymond, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote to appropriate \$489,000 to fund the fiscal year 2015 Capital Improvement Plan to be funded as follows: \$318,814 from free cash; \$170,186 from FY08, FY09, FY10, FY11, FY12, FY13 & FY14 Capital Improvement Plans as recommend by the Capital Program Committee and as detailed in the charts below::

Department	Item/Project	CPC FY15	Transfer FY15	Total FY15
COA	Re-Point Senior Center Bldg (all sides)	10,000.00		
	Senior Center Build out Plan	16,500.00		
Town Hall	Memorial Building Roof & Clock Tower	10,000.00		
	Computer Network Wiring	8,500.00		
	Masonry (west side) engineering	10,000.00		
Fire - vehicles	Ambulance		220,000.00	
DPW - Vehicles	Leases, Bob Cat, Chipper, Combo	175,000.00		
DPW - Projects	Grant Project Match	50,000.00		
	Non Chapter 90	75,000.00		
	Infrastructure Improvements	50,000.00		
	Gun Club Remediation	17,500.00		
	Landfill Monitoring	27,500.00		
DPW-- Water	Improvements		100,000.00	
DPW-- Sewer	Improvements		125,000.00	
DPW-Sewer	Ultraviolet		20,000.00	
Police - Vehicles	Cruiser Replacement	39,000.00		
	Total Budget	489,000.00	465,000.00	954,000.00

Balance	Year	Project Name	Account
76,060.68	FY08	Lake Ellis	0100-928-6533
16,000.00	FY09	Philipston Dam	0100-929-6301

250.00	FY09	Town Hall	0100-929-6433
4,472.50	FY09	Police Fire Arms	0100-929-6485
10,352.00	FY09	AHS Technology	0100-929-6583
1,469.47	FY09	Assessors 3-yr Reval	0100-929-6693
5,000.00	FY09	Reserve Fund	0100-929-6783
3,280.00	FY09	Police Cruisers	0100-929-6855
5,000.00	FY10	Reserve Fund	0100-920-6783
403.00	FY10	Police Cruisers	0100-920-6855
318.34	FY10	Fire Command Vehicle	0100-920-6856
1,500.00	FY11	DPW 51 School St.	0100-931-6534
5,067.00	FY11	Revaluation	0100-931-6693
16,336.00	FY11	CIP Reserve Fund	0100-931-6783
293.86	FY11	Ambulance	0100--931-6851
972.60	FY11	Fire Dept Command Veh	0100-931-6852
2,610.00	FY11	Police Cruisers	0100-931-6855
6,474.11	FY11	Fire / Police Preempt	0100-931-6871
10,000.00	FY12	Fire Alarm System	0100-932-6852
575.00	FY13	Fire Accountantability	0100-933-6581
800.92	FY13	Police Cruiser	0100-933-6855
754.52	FY13	Police Radio Tower Reloc	0100-933-6871
1,455.00	FY14	Police Cruiser Replacement	0100-934-6855
741.00	FY14	Fire Skid Unit	0100-934-6856
170,186.00			

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 9 On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$100,000 from the Water Enterprise Reserve account for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Water Division. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 10 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$125,000 from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account for the purchase of equipment and infrastructure improvements for the Sewer Division. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 11 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$20,000 from the Sewer Enterprise reserve account for the purchase of ultra violet lamp replacements for the Sewer Division. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 12 **No Motion, No Action** taken on "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or transfer a sum of money to continue environmental and remediation work at the former Athol Rod & Gun Club as required by the Department of Environmental Protection and the EPA; *or act in relation thereto.*

- Article 13** **No Motion, No Action** taken on “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to continue monitoring of the former Athol Sanitary Landfill as required by the Department of Environmental Protection; *or act in relation thereto.*
- Article 14** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$51,000 from free cash for future Triennial Revaluations and Interim Year Value Adjustments, as require under M.G.L. Ch. 40, Section 56, Ch. 58, Sections 1, 1A & 3 and Ch. 59 Section 2A. Such funding is to cover all aspects of revaluation including, but not limited to, statistical analysis, sales analysis, video imaging, field reviews and all other tasks deemed necessary for successful completion of these state mandated requirements. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 15** On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from taxation \$3,875,513 for the fiscal year 2015 assessment to the Athol-Royalston Regional School District. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 16** On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from taxation \$237,738 for the fiscal year 2015 assessment to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. *Passed by a majority vote.*
- Article 17** On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriates \$200,000, for the purpose of financing the following water pollution abatement facility projects: repair, replacement, and/or upgrade of septic systems, pursuant to agreements between the Board of Health and residential property owner(s), including without limitation, all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant Chapter 111, Section 127B 1/2 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore. All or any portion of the borrowing authorized by this vote may be obtained through the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 70 yes and 0 no.*
- Article 18** On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town set the salaries of several elected officers and appointed positions of the boards of the Town of Athol as shown above and printed in the warrant.

Moderator	\$ 194.00
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1652.00
Selectmen, all other (4)	\$1377.00
Assessors, Chairman	\$1652.00
Assessors, all other (1)	\$1350.00
Constable	None
Board of Health, Chairman	\$1652.00
Board of Health, all other (2)	\$1377.00
Library Trustees	None

Passed by a majority vote.

- Article 19** On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$1,179,466 to operate the Department of Public Works/Water Division.

Water Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	809,515
Debt	212,357
Health Insurance	59,794
Overhead	97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,179,466

and that \$1,179,466 be raised as follows:

Water Division	Revenues
Water Rates	1,088,966
Water Service	8,000
Water Interest	5,000
Water Account Charges	77,500
Total	1,179,466

Passed by a majority vote.

- Article 20** On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$1,390,426 to operate the Department of Public Works/Sewer Division.

Sewer Division	Expenses
Operational Expenses	826,287
Debt	370,545
Health Insurance	59,794
Overhead	97,800
Capital	0
Total	1,390,426

and that \$1,390,426 be raised as follows:

Sewer Division	Revenues
Sewer Rates	1,317,926
Sewer Service	1,000
Sewer Interest	4,000
Sewer Acct. Charge	67,500
Total	1,390,426

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 21 On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate from available funds \$366,844 to operate the Department of Public Works/Transfer/Recycling Enterprise Fund.

Transfer Station	Expenses
Operational Expenses	307,339
Debt	41,050
Health Insurance	18,455
Overhead	0
Total	366,844

and that **\$366,884** be raised as follows:

Transfer Station	Revenues
Departmental Receipts	339,534
Retained Earnings for Expenses	27,310
Total	366,844

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 22 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and authorize revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 E½ for fiscal year 2015.

Revolving fund	Authorized to spend	Revenue source	Use of fund	FY2015 spending limit
Plumbing Inspection	Selectmen	Plumbing Inspection fees	Pay plumbing insp. & asst. plumb. insp.	\$20,000
Recycling	Board of Health Town Manager	Grants, bulky waste, PAYT, recycling containers, compost bins	Expenses and equipment	\$20,000
Gas Inspections	Selectmen	Gas inspection fees	Pay gas insp. & asst. gas insp.	\$2,500
Waste Facility Debt	Town Manager	Sewer user fees	Pay upgrade debt	\$60,000
Trench Permit	Building Dept.	Permit Fees & Reimbursement	Enforcement	\$5,000
Vaccinations	Board of Health	Insurance Reimbursements & User Fees	Public Health Administration	\$25,000
Recreation	Recreation Commission	Registration Fees	Program Administration	\$10,000
Total Spending				\$142,500

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 23 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and authorize revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53C for fiscal year 2015.

Police Detail	Police Chief	Contractors	Pay police	\$100,000
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Passed by a majority vote.

Article 24 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town suspend the contribution of ten (10) percent (%) of ambulance revenue to Receipts Reserved for Ambulance Appropriation for fiscal year 2015, with all receipts being allocated to the General Fund. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 25 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$50,000 from free cash to be used for the purpose of demolishing and removing dangerous, vacant and abandoned buildings. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 26 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$126.99 from free cash to pay a fiscal year 2013 W. B. Mason bill incurred by Office of Treasurer / Collector. *Passed by a majority vote*

Article 27 On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town reimburse the Stabilization Account from money received from New England Equestrian Land Management Conservation Corporation for the construction of a road in the Equestrian Park for vehicle traffic as voted at the June 13, 2011 Annual Town Meeting. *Passed by a majority vote*

Article 28 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a petition with the Massachusetts General Court for special legislation to repeal the vote taken on November 3, 1936 by which the Town accepted the provisions of M.G.L. c 32 establishing a contributory retirement system for their employees. Said special legislation shall dissolve the Athol Contributory Retirement System. And to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to seek membership on behalf of the Town of Athol to the Worcester Regional Retirement System. *Passed by a majority vote*

Article 29 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept as a donation, vacant land in Athol described as Map 1, Parcel 70 by the Athol Assessors records, and described at the Worcester Registry of Deeds in book 4284, page 451, presently owned by Howard C. and Margaret H. Adams, as ownership by the Town has been requested by the Department of Environmental Protection. *Passed by a majority vote*

Article 30 On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town rescind the unissued balances on the following authorizations for which the projects have been completed for less than the voted authorizations at the following Town Meetings as printed in the warrant and written above.

PURPOSE	DATE OF VOTE	ARTICLE #	AMOUNT AUTHORIZED	ISSUED	REMAINING BALANCE
Ejector Station	May 15, 2000	48	\$160,000	\$100,000	\$60,000
Sewage Treatment	Jan. 31, 2005	1	\$5,000,000	\$4,910,000	\$90,000
Sewage Treatment	May 1, 2006	18	\$2,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$500,000
Sewage Treatment	Oct. 16, 2006	32	\$1,400,000	\$1,375,444	\$24,556

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 75 yes and 0 no.

Article 31 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town rescind the vote for which the Town authorized the bonding of the sum of \$200,000 to purchase land or take by eminent domain and associated cost in regards to purchasing land for the development of an Industrial Park in the Town of Athol as voted in Article 9 of the October 21, 1996 Special Town Meeting and amended in Article 7 of the February 12, 1997 Special Town Meeting. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 76 yes and 1 no.*

Article 32 On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town rescind the vote for which the Town authorized the bonding of the sum of \$30,000.00 to purchase 19.4 acres located on Templeton Road for the purpose of development of an Industrial Park as voted in Article 8 of the February 12, 1997 Special Town Meeting. *Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was unanimous.*

Article 33 On the Motion of Kenneth Duffy, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$97,389 from free cash to the stabilization account. *Passed by a majority vote.*

Article 34 On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Town Bylaws by amending Chapter X, Section 10 of the Dog Bylaws as printed in the warrant above.

FAILURE TO LICENSE \$25.00

and replacing it with the following:

FAILURE TO LICENSE \$50.00

Passed by a majority vote.

Article 35 On the Motion of Susannah Lee, it was **VOTED:** That the Town table Article 35 until the October 2014 Fall Town Meeting.

“To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws by deleting Chapter V, Section 15 by deleting the following language:

Section 15. The owner of any real estate abutting upon any sidewalk now in use - or hereafter constructed within the Town shall, except when exempted as noted below, within forty

eight (48) hours after the ceasing to fall or form of any snow, ice or sleet; shall cause the same to be removed from such sidewalk, and if the same cannot be wholly removed, shall sprinkle thereon sand, or other proper substance, so that such sidewalk shall be safe for travel.

15.1 The property owner shall not be responsible for removing snow on an abutting sidewalk if an excessive amount of snow is plowed onto the sidewalk by municipal or state vehicles (in the course of plowing a public way) which cannot be reasonably removed by hand shoveling, or by a mechanical snow thrower marketed as a residential model.

15.2 The property owner shall not be responsible for removing snow on an abutting sidewalk if a law enforcement agency or other agency having jurisdiction, determines a police detail is necessary.

15.3 The property owner shall not be responsible for removing snow on an abutting sidewalk if an extreme hardship is determined to exist. This determination to be made by the Town Manager or the Town Manager's agent.

15.4 No fines will be imposed on any property owner until the Town has completed clearing and/or treating all sidewalks that abut Town property.

15.5 With the written approval of the Town Manager, any Owner or owner's agent, when compliant with Chapter V, S15 will be held harmless by the Town and the Town shall defend the owner, or the owner's agent, at town cost in the event of litigation regarding snow removal from said sidewalk. If the Town Manager does not agree to defend the owner, or owner's agent, then the owner, or owner's agent, has the right to appeal the decision to the Board of Selectmen.
(Amended at the October 18, 2004 Fall Town Meeting. Approved by the Attorney General on December 22, 2004.)

and replacing it with the following:

Section 15. The owner of any real estate abutting upon any sidewalk now in use - or hereafter constructed within the Town shall, except when exempted as noted below, within **twenty-four (24)** hours after the ceasing to fall or form of any snow, ice or sleet; shall cause the same to be removed from such sidewalk. And if the same cannot be wholly removed, shall sprinkle thereon sand or other proper substance, so that such sidewalk shall be safe for travel.

15.1 With the written approval of the Town Manager, any Owner, or owner's agent, when compliant with Chapter V, S15 will be held harmless by the Town and the Town shall defend the owner, or the owner's agent, at town cost in the event of litigation regarding snow removal from said sidewalk. If the Town Manager does not agree to defend the owner, or owner's agent, then the owner, or owner's agent, has the right to appeal the decision to the Board of Selectmen."

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 76 yes and 0 no.

Article 36 No motion. No action taken on "To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter III, Section 18 "Non Criminal Disposition" by deleting the following language:

2.3 Violation of Chapter V, S15 of the bylaws "failure to shovel sidewalks of ice and snow after a storm. Commercial and residential areas."

Enforcing Agent: Police Department

Penalty: First offense warning
Second and subsequent offense \$20;

and replacing it with the following:

2.3 Violation of Chapter V, S15 of the bylaws “failure to shovel sidewalks of ice and snow after a storm. Commercial and residential areas.”

Enforcing Agent: Police Department

Penalty: \$25 per day

Article 37 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson and amended by Richard D. Godin, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Section 3.26.

3.26 Registered Marijuana Dispensaries

3.26.1 Purpose and Intent

3.26.1.1 The purpose and intent of this bylaw is to provide criteria for the placement of Registered Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD) in the Town of Athol and to ensure that proper security measures are in place in order to prevent adverse impacts on public health, property values of residential and commercial properties, the business climate and the general quality of life in the community.

3.26.1.2 105 CMR 725.000 defines the regulations for Register Marijuana Dispensaries and permits the dispensing of marijuana, the cultivation of marijuana and the processing of marijuana, to be conducted at a single location or at two separate locations with each activity conducted at only one location. This zoning bylaw provides criteria for the siting of Registered Marijuana Dispensaries in the Town of Athol for these purposes.

3.26.2 Definitions

Certificate of Registration: The certificate issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health that confirms that a Registered Marijuana Dispensary has met all requirements pursuant to Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2012, An Act for the Humanitarian Medical Use of Marijuana, and 105 CMR 725.000, and is registered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

CMR: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulation

Cultivating Marijuana: The act of growing and harvesting marijuana.

Dispensing Marijuana: The act of selling marijuana to qualifying patients.

Marijuana: All parts of the plant Cannabis sativa L., whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; and resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin. It does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil, or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of the mature stalks, except the resin extracted therefrom, fiber, oil or cake or the sterilized seed of the plant which is

incapable of germination. The term also includes MIPs except where the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Marijuana-Infused Product (MIP): A product infused with marijuana that is intended for use or consumption, including but not limited to edible products, ointments, aerosols, oils and tinctures. These products, when created or sold by a RMD, shall not be considered a food or a drug as defined in M.G.L. c. 94, s. 1.

Processing Marijuana: The act of preparing marijuana for dispensing to qualifying patients and/or preparing Marijuana-Infused Products.

Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD): A not-for-profit entity registered under 105 CMR 725.100, that acquires, cultivates, possesses, processes (including development of related products such as edible MIPs, tinctures, aerosols, oils, or ointments), transfers, transports, sells, distributes, dispenses or administers marijuana, products containing marijuana, related supplies or educational materials to registered qualifying patients or their personal caregivers. Unless otherwise specified, RMD refers to the site(s) of dispensing, cultivation, and processing of marijuana.

Personal Caregiver: A person, registered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, who is at least 21 years old, who has agreed to assist with a registered qualifying patient's medical use of marijuana, and is not the registered qualifying patient's certifying physician. An employee of a hospice provider, nursing, or medical facility or a visiting nurse, personal care attendant or home health aide providing care to a qualifying patient may serve as a personal caregiver, including to patients under 18 years of age as a second caregiver.

Qualifying Patient: A Massachusetts resident 18 years of age or older who has been diagnosed by a Massachusetts licensed certifying physician as having a debilitating medical condition, or a Massachusetts resident under 18 years of age who has been diagnosed by two Massachusetts licensed certifying physicians, at least one of whom is a board-certified pediatrician or board-certified pediatric subspecialist, as having a debilitating medical condition that is also a life-limiting illness, subject to 105 CMR 725.010(J).

Registered Qualifying Patient: A qualifying patient who has applied for and received a registration card from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Registration Card: An identification card issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to a registered qualifying patient, personal caregiver or dispensary agent. The registration card verifies either that a certifying physician has provided a written certification to the qualifying patient and the patient has been registered with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health; that a patient has designated the individual as a personal caregiver; that a patient has been granted a hardship cultivation registration; or that a dispensary agent has been registered with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and is authorized to work at a RMD.

The registration card allows access into appropriate elements of a Massachusetts Department of Public Health-supported, interoperable database in which detailed information regarding certifications and possession criteria are stored. The registration card identifies for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and law enforcement authorities, those individuals who are exempt from Massachusetts criminal and civil penalties for the medical use of marijuana in compliance with 105 CMR 725.000 and the Act.

Written Certification: A form submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health by a Massachusetts licensed certifying physician, describing the qualifying patient's pertinent symptoms, specifying the patient's debilitating medical condition and stating that in the physician's professional opinion the potential benefits of the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the health risks for the patient.

Zoning Enforcement Officer: The Building Inspector is the Zoning Enforcement Officer for the Town of Athol.

3.26.3 Registered Marijuana Dispensary by Special Permit

3.26.3.1 The operation of a Registered Marijuana Dispensary in the Town of Athol, shall require a Special Permit from the Athol Zoning Board of Appeals.

3.26.3.2 Registered Marijuana Dispensary facilities that dispense marijuana shall be allowed by Special Permit only in the following zoning districts:

- General Commercial (G)
- Industrial Commercial (I)

3.26.3.3 Registered Marijuana Dispensary facilities that cultivate marijuana and/or process marijuana, shall be allowed by Special Permit only in the following zoning districts:

- Central Commercial (CA)
- General Commercial (G)
- Industrial Commercial (I)

3.26.3.4 Separate special permits must be acquired for each Registered Marijuana Dispensary facility.

3.26.3.5 An outdoor cultivation site is considered a Registered Marijuana Dispensary facility and shall require a separate special permit.

3.26.3.6 Outdoor cultivation sites shall not be permitted in the Central Commercial (CA) zoning district.

3.26.3.7 No activity shall be conducted at the Registered Marijuana Dispensary other than that for which the special permit has been issued.

3.26.3.8 The Special Permit shall not be assigned or transferred.

3.26.3.9 Any special permit granted for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary shall

- be personal to the applicant, shall not run with the land, and shall expire upon expiration of the applicant's lease or upon sale or transfer of the applicant's property or business
- expire upon the expiration or termination of the applicant's Certificate of Registration by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

3.26.3.10 An application for renewal must be submitted at least 120 days prior to the expiration of the Special Permit.

3.26.3.11 The holder of the Special Permit shall notify the Zoning Enforcement Officer and the Zoning Board of Appeals in writing within 48 hours of the cessation of operation of the Registered Marijuana Dispensary or the expiration or termination of the Special Permit holder's Certificate of Registration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

3.26.4 Setbacks

3.26.4.1 Registered Marijuana Dispensaries, sited in the General Commercial (G) or Industrial Commercial (I) zoning districts, which

- dispense marijuana
- cultivate marijuana at an outdoor location shall not be located within 500 feet of the following:
 - a. A residential dwelling
 - b. A structure used for educational or religious purposes
 - c. A structure or parcel owned, operated or maintained by the federal government, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the Town of Athol for use by, or with activities open to the general public, such as a library, municipal building, park, playground or recreational area
 - d. A structure or parcel used for a licensed childcare facility registered with the town
 - e. Any facility in which children commonly congregate
 - f. Any establishment that serves or sells alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the premises, except restaurants

3.26.4.2 Measure of Distance: The distance specified above shall be measured by a straight line from the point of the structure for which the proposed Registered Marijuana Dispensary is to be located, which is nearest the point of the other designated uses set forth above.

3.26.4.3 The setbacks defined in section 3.26.4.1 shall not apply to Registered Marijuana Dispensaries, sited in the Central Commercial (CA), General Commercial (G) or Industrial Commercial (I) zoning districts, which are engaged only in either of the following activities:

- cultivating marijuana
- processing marijuana

However, in cases in which the cultivation area is outdoors, the setbacks defined in section 3.26.4.1 shall apply.

3.26.5 Registered Marijuana Dispensary Security Requirements

3.26.5.1 The applicant for a special permit for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary shall provide the Athol Police Department with the following information:

- a. All information described in section 3.26.7.1 a - h
- b. All information necessary to demonstrate compliance with 105 CMR 725.110, Security Requirements for Registered Marijuana Dispensaries.

3.26.5.2 The Athol Police Department shall provide the applicant documentation that the

information in section 3.26.5.1 has been provided and the date it was received.

3.26.5.3 The Athol Police Department shall have thirty (30) days to review the information provided by the applicant. Upon completion of the review period, if the Athol Police Department determines that additional security requirements not addressed in 105 CMR 725.110 are warranted, they shall inform the applicant and the ZBA in writing.

3.26.6 Registered Marijuana Dispensary Health Requirements

3.26.6.1 The applicant for a special permit for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary shall provide the Athol Board of Health with the following information:

- a. All information described in section 3.26.7.1 a - h
- b. All information necessary to demonstrate compliance with:
 - 105 CMR 725.105(A)(4)(5)(7)(10)(12)(14)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(C)(6)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(D)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(E)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(G)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(H)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(I)(2)(3)(4)(6)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(J)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(K)
 - 105 CMR 725.105(L)(1)(6)(8)(9)(10)

3.26.6.2 The Athol Board of Health shall provide the applicant documentation that the information in section 3.26.6.1 has been provided and the date it was received.

3.26.6.3 The Athol Board of Health shall have thirty (30) days to review the information provided by the applicant. Upon completion of the review period, if the Athol Board of Health determines that additional health regulations not addressed in section 3.26.6.1 b are warranted, they shall inform the applicant and the ZBA in writing.

3.26.7 Registered Marijuana Dispensary Special Permit Application Requirements

3.26.7.1 The application for a special permit for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary shall provide the following information:

- a. Address of the dispensary
- b. A statement declaring the activities that will be conducted at the dispensary which shall include only the following:
 - dispensing marijuana
 - cultivating marijuana
 - processing marijuana
- c. Name, address and phone number of the legal owner of the dispensary - The individual(s) or entity issued, or applying for, the Certificate of Registration from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- d. Name, address and phone number of the legal owner of the property
- e. Name, address and phone number of the manager of the dispensary
- f. Number of employees

- g. Hours of operation and after-hours contact information
- h. Description and illustration of the physical layout of the premises
- i. Documentation of Athol Police Department receipt of the information listed in Section 3.26.5.1
- j. Documentation of Athol Board of Health receipt of the information listed in Section 3.26.6.1

3.26.7.2 The applicant shall provide the information defined in section 3.26.7.1 a - h, to the Building Inspector, the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, the Department of Public Works, the Planning Board and the Fire Chief for their advisory review and comments. The applicant shall submit proof of receipt from each of these departments to the ZBA.

3.26.7.3 Agents for the departments listed in section 3.26.7.2 shall have thirty (30) days to review the information provided by the applicant and to submit written comments to the ZBA. Failure to respond to the ZBA within this timeframe shall be construed as lack of opposition to the application as submitted.

3.26.8 Conditions, Safeguards and Limitations, for Registered Marijuana Dispensaries

In granting a special permit, the Zoning Board of Appeals may impose additional conditions, safeguards and limitations on the permit.

3.26.9 Registered Marijuana Dispensary Operational Requirements

3.26.9.1 Before the Registered Marijuana Dispensary becomes operational, the applicant must provide the Police Department, the Athol Board of Health and the Building Department, a copy of the Certificate of Registration issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

3.26.9.2 The Registered Marijuana Dispensary shall post the Certificate of Registration in a conspicuous location on the premises approved by the Athol Board of Health.

3.26.10 Severability

The provisions of this zoning bylaw are severable. In the event that any provision of this zoning bylaw is determined to be invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 59 yes and 1 no.

Article 38 On the Motion of Paul W. Nelson, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule.

Industrial Commercial						
General Commercial						
Neighborhood Commercial						
Central Commercial						
Residence C						
Residence B						
Residence A						

2.3 Use Regulation Schedule

<u>RA</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>RC</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>CB</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>I</u>
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COMMERCIAL USES

Registered Marijuana Dispensaries

N	N	N	SP8	N	SP	SP
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Footnote 8 shall contain the following language:

Registered Marijuana Dispensaries that dispense marijuana and/or cultivate marijuana at an outdoor location are prohibited in the Central Commercial zoning district.

Required a 2/3rd's vote. The vote was 60 yes and 1 no.

Meeting dissolved at 9:07 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham
Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION DECEMBER 9, 2013

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 10:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

Precinct 1: 1103 Regular Ballots and 12 Absent Voter Ballots

Precinct 2: 1000 Regular Ballots and 7 Absent Voter Ballots

Precinct 3: 1002 Regular Ballots and 8 Absent Voter Ballots

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

Precinct 1: 488 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.

Precinct 2: 341 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

Precinct 3: 345 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

Precinct 1: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 488

Precinct 2: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 341

Precinct 3: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 345

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

Precinct 1: Number of Ballots Cast, 488; Spoiled Ballots, 1; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 626

Precinct 2: Number of Ballots Cast, 341; Spoiled Ballots, 1; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 665

Precinct 3: Number of Ballots Cast, 345; Spoiled Ballots, 0; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 657

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (D) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Deputy Warden (U) Allen Hodgdon; Clerk (R) Alice Woessner; Inspectors: (U) Joyce Sinclair; (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Marilyn Farnum; (D) Jean Torstensen; (D) Roberta Casella

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ann Shea; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Margaret Feldman; (U) Jean White; (D) Richard Lozier; (U) Cathy Foster

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (R) Marion Euvrard; Inspectors: (U) Clinton Smith; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (R) Claire Butler; (D) Muriel Holden; (U) Dawn Maroni

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

Shall the Town of Athol be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two-and-one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order for the design and construction of a new Athol Elementary School, Pleasant Street, Athol, Massachusetts?

PRECINCT	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
BLANKS	0	0	1	1
YES	323	203	201	727
NO	165	138	143	446
TOTALS	488	341	345	1174

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the Special Town Election this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on November 19, 2013 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2201
2	1995
3	<u>2020</u>
Total	6316

Nancy E. Burnham
Hugh A. Horrigan
Gerard Lozier
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
APRIL 7, 2014

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 10:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

Precinct 1: 598 Regular Ballots and 6 Absent Voter Ballots
Precinct 2: 599 Regular Ballots and 6 Absent Voter Ballots
Precinct 3: 600 Regular Ballots and 4 Absent Voter Ballots

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

Precinct 1: 169 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.
Precinct 2: 122 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket
Precinct 3: 139 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

Precinct 1: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 169
Precinct 2: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 122
Precinct 3: On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 139

NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

- Precinct 1:** Number of Ballots Cast, 169; Spoiled Ballots, 1; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 434
- Precinct 2:** Number of Ballots Cast, 122; Spoiled Ballots, 2; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 481
- Precinct 3:** Number of Ballots Cast, 140; Spoiled Ballots, 1; Provisional Ballots, 0; Unused Ballots, 460

ELECTION OFFICERS

Precinct 1: Warden (D) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; Deputy Warden (U) Allen Hodgdon; Clerk (R) Alice Woessner; Inspectors: (U) Joyce Sinclair; (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Marilyn Farnum; (D) Roberta Casella

Precinct 2: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (U) Betty Anne Smith; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Margaret Feldman; (U) Jean White; (U) Joan Starrett; (U) Cathy Foster; (U) Shirley Hyre

Precinct 3: Warden (U) Ben Feldman; Clerk (R) Marion Euvrard; Inspectors: (U) Clinton Smith; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (R) Claire Butler; (D) Muriel Holden; (U) Dawn Maroni; (D) Linda Lozier

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.
The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

OFFICE/CANDIDATE					
TOTALS	1	2	3	TOTALS	
MODERATOR					
BLANKS	18	13	17	48	
LAWRENCE P. MCLAUGHLIN	150	108	122	380	
KEITH HENSLEY	0	0	1	1	
ALL OTHERS	1	1	0	2	
TOTALS	169	122	140	431	
SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS					
BLANKS	80	74	91	245	
ANTHONY A. BRIGHENTI	122	83	103	308	
ALAN D. DODGE	124	77	78	279	
KENNETH VAIDULAS	1	0	0	1	
WAYNE MILLER	1	0	0	1	
BRENT WINTERS	1	0	0	1	
PHIL KING	1	0	0	1	
WAYNE KING	1	0	0	1	
JAMES SMITH	2	2	0	4	
JASON LERAY	1	1	3	5	
THOMAS MANN	1	0	0	1	
BARBARA SMITH	2	1	2	5	
KALA FISHER	1	0	0	1	
KENNETH DUFFY	0	1	1	2	
WILLIAM CALDWELL	0	1	0	1	
RANDY MITCHELL	0	1	0	1	
BRIAN DODGE	0	1	0	1	

CHARLES WINTERS	0	1	0	1
CARMEN HENSLEY	0	0	1	1
WILLIAM WRIGHT	0	0	1	1
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	338	244	280	862
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ATHOL - 3 YEARS				
BLANKS	84	75	90	249
LEE E. CHAUVETTE	114	77	84	275
MITCHELL R. GROSKY	133	87	100	320
KENNETH VAIDULAS	3	1	3	7
PATRICIA ROIX	2	0	0	2
JEN GODIN-TALBOT	1	0	0	1
REBECCA LERAY	1	1	2	4
JEREMIAH RIORDAN	0	1	0	1
KRISTIN RIORDAN	0	1	0	1
RICHARD EUVRARD	0	0	1	1
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	338	244	280	862
SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ROYALSTON - 3 YEARS				
BLANKS	33	23	28	84
NANCY D. MELBOURNE	134	99	109	342
MARJORIE CHASE	1	0	0	1
ROBERTA NEWMAN	1	0	3	4
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	169	122	140	431
LIBRARY TRUSTEE				
BLANKS	56	47	70	173
JOHN R. GREENE	138	95	102	335
MARGARET L. YOUNG	144	102	108	354
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	338	244	280	862
HOUSING AUTHORITY				
BLANKS	33	17	24	74
EDWARD F. LEDGARD	136	104	116	356
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	169	122	140	431
CONSTABLE - 3 YEARS				
BLANKS	13	7	14	34
KEVIN MATERAS	59	36	42	137
RANDY MITCHELL	97	79	83	259
DAN EATON	0	0	1	1
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	169	122	140	431
QUESTION 1 - This is a non-binding question.				
Shall the Town Charter require the position of Town Manager to be a full-time resident of the Town of Athol?				
BLANKS	12	6	10	28
YES	102	86	96	284
NO	55	30	34	119
TOTALS	169	122	140	431

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the Special Town Election this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on March 18, 2014 was as follows. viz.-

Precinct	Registered Voters
1	2291
2	2005
3	<u>2031</u>
Total	6327

Nancy E. Burnham

Hugh A. Horrigan

Gerard Lozier

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

CHAPTER SEVEN SCHOOLS

Reports of the Athol Royalston
Regional School District &
Montachusett Regional Vocational
Technical School



1

ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (ARRSD)
Annual Report for the School Year 2013-2014, and the first half of the 2014-2015
Prepared for the Annual Town meetings in Royalston (5/8/15) and Athol (6/8/15)

**TO THE SELECTMEN & THE CITIZENS OF
THE TOWNS OF ATHOL AND ROYALSTON;**

The Athol-Royalston Regional School District presents this Annual Report to the citizens of Athol and Royalston.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The District continues to find it difficult to find the appropriate funding for the needed resources to operate, and to make the requisite improvements demanded by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Staff lost over the previous five years has not been restored because of budgeting issues. The District enrollment has leveled off over the last few years but it is lower than it was 10 years ago. Nevertheless, there is a need for funding to implement the District's next five-year Strategic Plan which begins in September of 2015.

The annual budget process should start every year with an examination of the performance of our students. This should be followed by recommendations from educators and parents as to how to improve student performance. These recommendations are then cost out and placed into the budget. During the budget process, priorities are created within these recommendations and brought before the School Committee for final approval. Because of a lack of revenue, this process has not been followed for the last six years. Our basic annual budget process, because of limited revenues, is simply to determine if we have enough resources so that we do not have to cut or layoff staff. Our non-negotiables in our budget (transportation, energy, utilities, insurance, special education, etc.) increase every year. With no more than very slight revenue increases, it is the always the educational side of our budget that is limited.

The reasons for our revenue problem have been the same for years: 1. The exhausting of all District-funded resources 2. The school "choice-out" cost to the District of \$1.9 million 3. The negligible increases in State aid through Chapter 70 4. Over \$1 million in special education tuition for students placed in DCF foster placements in Athol and 5. The difficult financial situation of our member Towns.

In our discussions with the FWAC of Athol and the Fincom of Royalston, it is clear that they understand and commiserate with our plight. We recognize and respect that our Towns have limited resources as well, and that they do the very best that they can for us. However, the State aid to our District pays for approximately 89% of the cost of educating our students. We are among the top five school districts in Massachusetts in the percentage of State aid received. At an All-Boards' Meeting held in March, the Towns said they would try to increase their assessments to the District over the next five years.

As always, we do not see this financial situation as an excuse for not doing the very best for our students. We see it as a challenge to our District and our Towns. It does mean that the District and the Towns need to find more ingenious and creative ways to do better for our students -- regardless of the available funding.

FACILITIES

Construction has begun on the new Athol Elementary School which is being built behind the Athol-Royalston Middle School. We again thank the citizens of Athol for their support and trust in being able to provide a state-of-the-art school for our children in grades PreK through 4. The groundbreaking for the new school took place in December of 2014, and the plan is that it will be ready to accept students in September of 2016.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visited Athol High School a year ago. In its report, it stated that the District will have to do something soon to refurbish or renovate the existing athletic and physical education locker rooms facilities there. We are trying to address the issue in two ways. First, we will continue to ask the State through the MSBA (which is funding much of our Elementary School Project) for funds to renovate the locker rooms. However, it is unlikely they would assist us until the new Elementary School is completed. The estimated cost is \$1 million, of which 80% would be paid by the State, if and when they would approve us. Second, we will ask the Towns to put aside money in their capital planning accounts



2

ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (ARRSD)
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over the next five years to help defray the cost of renovations should State aid not be forthcoming. The condition of the locker rooms is critical to maintaining our full-accreditation at the High School.

ARRSD is always in the process of renovating and improving its athletic fields. There was some damage to the High School football field as a result of the snow removal for the Thanksgiving Day game last fall, and it is being repaired this summer. The District has funded much of this with the assistance of the Athletic Association, and they deserve kudos for helping us keep our athletic facilities as good as they can be for our students and the community.

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL REPORTS

We always ask the citizens of Athol and Royalston to check out our web site at arrsd.org. There, you can find all of the reports that are issued regarding the District by the State and other outside agencies. The newest report which should be posted by May will be the one-year evaluation of the Turnaround Plan for the Riverbend-Sanders Street Schools. The State report is positive and shows strengths in most areas of the report and positive growth in others. The report highlighted a positive culture and climate, illustrated a solid classroom organization, and provided suggestions for improving instructional support. That Turnaround Plan is in effect for two more years. We believe that the Level 4 status of the Riverbend-Sanders Street schools will be upgraded to Level 3 in June of 2016.

Also posted on that web site will be the detailed Strategic Plan for the next five-years that will be sent to the School Committee for approval in June.

Although it is not on the web site yet, the District is now in the process of preparing a Vertical Articulation Plan (VAP) to more deeply connect the Middle School and the High School in curriculum development, instruction,

assessment, student interventions, and guidance. That Plan is being developed now by parents, teachers, students and community members. It will be given as a report to the School Committee with recommendations in the fall.

STUDENT BODY

District enrollment has remained stable for the last three years and the number of students in Special Education, while very high has stabilized as well. The District's special education population is still amongst the highest in Massachusetts. The number of students who receive "free and reduced lunch" continues to grow with over 60% of our students getting assistance.

The number of student families who "choiced-out" of ARRSD increased by thirty-six this year, however the number of students who "choiced-in" to our District, has increased by twenty-five students. As mentioned previously, the net loss in revenue due to School Choice is \$1.9 million per year in Chapter 70 school aid. A recent survey was done regarding the reasons why parents "choice out" their students. These results can be found on our web site. We will soon survey the "choiced-in" families to see why they send their children to ARRSD. Either way, the bottom line is the District must continue to improve and upgrade its quality of education, and the achievement of its students, to decrease the number of families who choice out.

ATHOL HIGH SCHOOL — Class of 2014

The AHS class of 2014 consisted of 75 students. Sixty nine of these students received diplomas and six received certificates of attainment. Of the 69 graduates, 42 of them continued their education by attending either a two-year or four-year college.

Twenty nine members of the class of 2014 were awarded a total of \$79,875 in local scholarships to assist them in their post-secondary education. Twenty three members of the class of 2014 continued their education at Mount Wachusett Community College, MassBay Community College, or Greenfield Community College. Additionally, 19 members



of the class of 2014 chose to attend Anna Maria College, Bentley University, Brandeis University, Bridgewater State University, Emerson College, Fitchburg State University, Framingham State University, Lyndon State College, Salem State University, University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of New England, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Westfield State University, and Worcester State University.

Academically, the class of 2014 had a SAT Critical Reading score of 488, Math of 494, and Writing of 468. In 2014, AHS had 61 students take a total of 81 AP exams. Of these students, five were recognized with AP scholar awards, two with AP scholar with honor awards, and 1 with an AP scholar with distinction award.

During the 2013-2014 school year, there were two drama productions at AHS, *Midsummer Night's Jersey* and *High School Musical*. Additionally, there was the Lip Sync Competition, Mr. Athol High, and the Spirit Week Competition. The seniors won the spirit week competition. Their class quote was "We've spread our wings now watch us soar, we're the class of 2-0-1-4."

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Athol Royalston Regional School District continues to make it a priority to improve student achievement. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) measures student achievement using data from the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). ARRSD is devoted to improving MCAS scores in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA), Science, and Mathematics. All Massachusetts schools and districts are classified into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the highest performing Level 1 and the lowest performing Level 5. Within ARRSD each school has its level for 2014. Athol High School is Level 3, Athol-Royalston Middle

School is Level 3, Pleasant Street School is Level 3, Royalston Community School is Level 3. The Riverbend/Sanders Street School is Level 4. The state assigns the level for each district according to its lowest performing school. So, even though there are only 58 students assessed in the Riverbend/Sanders Street School among the 1400 students in the District, we are designated a Level 4 district.

THE NEW MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATORS EVALUATION SYSTEM

The District completed the first year of the Educator Evaluation System during the 2013-2014 school year, and it is now finishing up on year two. The District adopted the Massachusetts model for the Educator Evaluation System which provides a process for professional development and growth. During the process all educators begin with a self-assessment, and set goals based on that self-assessment with the evaluator. The evaluator and educator work together to establish a plan to meet the goals. The educator works on the goals throughout the plan period (one year or two year plan durations). The evaluator observes each educator for 7-10 observations during the plan period, and provides written feedback for the educator. At the end of the evaluation cycle educators provide the evaluator with evidence demonstrating the work towards and/or the attainment of the goals and effective teaching practices as outlined by the rubrics in the Educator Evaluation System.

Recommendations for improvement for teachers are included in the final summative report and will be followed with requirements of steps for improvement. We feel the Educator Evaluation System has dramatically helped to improve the quality of instruction in our Schools and look forward to further growth in the years that follow.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

District PD

All educators in the District participated in professional development during the 2013-2014 school year to learn about the Educator Evaluation System. The focus of the activities was improving quality instruction in the classroom. The teachers also participated in PD targeting aligning the curriculum to the state standards and using data to inform instruction.

English Lang. Arts (ELA) Elementary PD

The District contracted with Teachers for Teachers (PD consultants) for the ELA PD through the Reader's Workshop Model. Teachers participated in content area workshops beginning in January of 2014 and have continued through the 2014-2015 school year. In addition to content area PD, the ELA PD providers work in schools during on-site visits, providing coaching and modeling to teachers. During the site visits the teachers were grouped by grade level – each group met with the ELA PD provider for 30 minutes, then went to classrooms to observe a lesson modeled by the ELA PD provider, and completed the visit with a 30 minute de-briefing following the modeled lesson. The focus of the PD changed each visit based on data collected during the previous visits. During visits the ELA PD provider also reviewed data with teachers and made plans for instruction using “messy sheets” or planning templates.

Mathematics Elementary PD

The District contracted with Looney Math Consultants to provide Math PD through a Math Workshop Model. The Math PD is constructed in the same manner as the ELA PD, with a greater focus on content and less modeling for year one (2014-2015). The teachers participate in content area PD. The teachers were also grouped by grade level and worked in small groups reviewing the Engage NY/Eureka math

materials while analyzing student data and planning for instruction.

Middle and High School PD

The teachers in the middle and high schools worked with the DESE District and School Assistance Center (DSAC) to implement “Learning Walks”. Learning walks involve a group of teachers trained in the process, similar to what doctors do in hospitals when they conduct “rounds.” The group of teachers travel to various classrooms and are attempting to see trends in instructional practices. After visiting the classrooms the teachers share out at faculty meetings what trends were observed. As a result the faculty works together to build upon strengths and improve areas of need.

SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES

The District presently serves 402 students with special needs age 3 to 22 representing 27.5 percent of the total student population. The District follows all state and federal regulations requiring a full continuum of services for students to ensure access to the general education curriculum. 29 students, including 6 whose families moved in this year, are served out of the District in other placements due to their intensive instructional, physical and emotional needs. Others have been placed in residential settings by the Dept. of Children and Families. Extended year services serve approximately 40 students to prevent significantly regression in their academic and/or social-emotional skills over the summer break.

LIMITED ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

In the 2013 – 14 school year, ARRSD has 25 students, grades pre-k – 12, spread over 5 schools, who qualify for direct English language instruction according to state and federal laws. For the majority, Spanish is the first language, but Greek, Haitian Creole, German, Gujarati, Chinese and Vietnamese are also represented. Currently, these students receive services from a



licensed E.S.L. teacher, but this does not provide the requisite number of hours of E.S.L. instruction which the State recommends. The district ELL program is in compliance with all other state requirements. Despite its small size and diffuse geography, the ELL student community is tight. There is an English class for parents and community members as well. Student progress is formally measured by the annual ACCESS test as well as the MCAS test, and while there are sizable individual fluctuations in growth rates, there is generally growth.

For the past 2 years, the district has been a participant in the RETELL initiative. It has offered several DESE funded, on-site, graduate-level courses for all math, social studies, reading, special education, English/language arts, and science teachers in the district. These courses stress best practices for teaching the limited English students at all levels of fluency in their classrooms. So far, over 30 teachers and administrators have taken the training. Not only are these strategies shown to be excellent for ELLs, they are also excellent for all students who enter school with limited vocabulary and insufficient expressive language. These methods dovetail well with the Common Core requirements and other district initiatives, such as Reader's Workshop and Looney Math. Through the RETELL initiative, all teachers are now consciously language teachers while they teach their content, which should benefit many language-limited students in the ARRSD. The RETELL initiative lasts one more school year.

TECHNOLOGY

In preparing students to meet the demands of the core curriculum and current standards for integrating technology in education, the technology department updates its goals based on classroom needs and available hardware and software. These tools serve students, teachers and administration in a cost effective manner.

The goals leverage how new and donated equipment can best be utilized to support the diverse and varied learning environment. The technology department has partnered with up to a dozen educational resources across the northeast for additional computers, interactive whiteboards, projectors, printers, WiFi and other equipment on a donated basis.

The beginning of the academic year saw a transition to a different internet service provider for most schools. This offered an increase in speed which in turn served more students and teachers resulting in even more access to learning, teaching and research materials. By the end of the year, a further transition from traditional broadband to fiber and much higher speeds was realized for most schools.

The beginning of the year also saw the introduction of the state's teacher evaluation system. Portable tablets received through grants assisted teachers and evaluators with the process by consolidating data collection and evidence gathering.

The Family Portal website experienced higher levels of activity during its second year as more families have been included and connected to their students' assignments, projects and grades on a more immediate basis.

Further efforts at the end of the year prepared the schools to implement MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) assessments for grades K-11 by the addition of laptops through a grant. The results of the three times per year "snapshots" of the students' academic progress can immediately inform teaching practices which can translate to better student learning.

We need to note that the District has little to no funds in its annual budget to buy, lease or refresh technology. All technology improvements are the result of donations and grant funding to the District.



6

ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (ARRSD)
Annual Report for the School Year 2013-2014, and the first half of the 2014-2015
Prepared for the Annual Town meetings in Royalston (5/8/15) and Athol (6/8/15)

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE GRANTS

As always, we would like to thank the Athol-Royalston Education Foundation which offers individual teachers and schools mini-grants for specific classroom or school projects. For many years their efforts and funding have made a significant difference in the quality of what we do for our students.

Currently the district administers over 20 State and Federal grants. However, those grants continue to be cut by the State and Federal governments by close to 10%/year. We expect that to continue next year as well. The grants have provided much needed support to us in the areas of teacher quality improvement, special education, funding for at-risk students, and the Title I reading program. Ongoing annual grants continue in the areas of additional support for special education, kindergarten, early childhood, academic support, and improving professional development for teachers. Special competitive grants received by the district still include funding for our anti-bullying efforts, community service projects, voc-tech programs at Athol High School, Advanced Placement courses, literacy, and drug-free schools. District administrators and principals continually seek funding opportunities through grants to improve and augment student programs for the district.

ATHLETICS

The 2013-2014 school year showed a slight growth in Interscholastic Athletic participation throughout the district. The District continues to support the Athletic Department with proper funding to meet all safety and seasonal equipment needs. The Athol-Royalston Athletic Association and the Athol Booster Association continue to be strong community organizations that provide a great deal of support for all of our athletic teams.

The data regarding the entire Athletic Program over the last year is presented at the end of this Report.

FINAL THOUGHTS

If there are any questions, comments or concerns regarding this Annual Report, we ask that you call ARRSD's Central Office at 978-249-2400 or submit an email via the District's web site.

The School Committee, administration, students and staff extend their thanks to the Towns of Athol and Royalston for their continued support. Even in these challenging economic times, the District persists in moving forward to improve its programming and assistance to our students and their families. Our commitment is to become a strong school district in Central Massachusetts. It is our pleasure to be of service to the residents of Athol and Royalston.

Respectfully Submitted,

***Nancy Melbourne, Chair,
ARRSD School Committee***

***Anthony T. Polito, Supt. of
Schools,
ARRSD***

FURTHER DISTRICT INFORMATION?

Please go to the Athol-Royalston Regional School District web site @ arrsd.org for more information on the following:

- Strategic Planning
- Other important District and School Committee policies
- All District updates
- New Elementary School Documents and updates on construction
- District Evaluation Reports
- Family Portal and information

**ATHOL - ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET - JUNE 30, 2014**

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & RESERVES	
Cash	\$ 4,222,933	LIABILITIES:	
Receivables		Accrued Payroll & Deductions	\$ 1,295,216
Commonwealth of Massachusetts	\$ 275,250	Notes Payable	\$ 247,000
Other Receivables	\$ 165	General obligations bonds payable	\$ 1,233,806
Amount to be provided for the retirement of general long term obligations	\$ 1,480,806	RESERVES:	
		General Fund	
		E & D	\$ 916,947
		Encumbrances	\$ 342,210
		Expenditures	\$ 265,302 \$ 1,524,459
		Special Revenues	
		Grants	
		Title I	\$ 15,259
		Teacher Quality	\$ (8,113)
		Support/Under Performing District	\$ 4,900
		94-142 Special Education	\$ (14,463)
			<u>\$ (2,417)</u>
		Revolving	
		Tenant Officer	\$ 1,423
		Custodial Revolving	\$ 5,016
		NQ School to Work	\$ 800
		Royalston Community School Insurance	\$ 1,893
		Lost Books - Athol High School	\$ 1,683
		Lost Books - Athol-Royalston Middle School	\$ 321
		Gift/Donation Athol High School	\$ 798
		Gift/Donation Pleasant Street School	\$ 8,663
		Gift/Donation Riverbend Street School	\$ 5,770
		Gift/Donation Royalston Community School	\$ 1,854
		Gift/Donation Sanders Street School	\$ 2,637
		Out of District Tuition	\$ 54,453
		Athletic Revolving	\$ 44,706
		School Choice	\$ 402,904
		School Lunch	\$ 41,989
			<u>\$ 574,910</u>
		Other	
		Circuit Breaker	\$ 340,491
		Supplemental Reserve Financial Stability	\$ 339,516
			<u>\$ 680,007</u> \$ 1,252,500
		Capital Project	
		Athol-Royalston Middle School	\$ 8,445
		Internal Service Fund	
		Health Insurance	\$ 86,883
		Agency	
		Athol Elementary School	\$ 263,673
		Pleasant Street School Student Activity	\$ 917
		Athol-Royalston Middle School Gift/Donation	\$ 3,214
		Athol High School Gift/Donation	\$ 3,323
		Athol High School Student Activity	\$ 27,568
		Athol-Royalston Middle School Student Activity	\$ 5,815 \$ 304,510
		Expendable Trusts	
		Cook	\$ 2,000
		O'Brien	\$ 2,432
		Rowe	\$ 20,014
		Shatos	\$ 1,889 \$ 26,335
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 5,979,154</u>	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES	<u>\$ 5,979,154</u>

**ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SALARIES PAID DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014**

EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES	EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES
ALDRICH, DENISE R	15.00	BRENNAN, LINDA A	2,087.75
ALLEN, EILEEN R	81,807.40	BRIGGS, DONNA M	29,513.16
ALLEN, TERESA M	22,909.45	BRIGHENTI, MARY J	43,263.09
ALVAREZ, ANNETTE	5,527.74	BRISTOL, DANIEL J	3,825.00
AMES, JENNIFER L	67,040.94	BROOME, KELLIE R	1,837.50
ANDERSON, BARBARA L	43,313.38	BROUILLET, ERICA S	121,976.00
ANDERSON, KURT M	52,847.01	BROWN, CAROLYN A	9,971.18
ARCHAMBEAULT, WHITNEY S	30,148.20	BUCKLAND, LAURIE J	225.00
ARPIDE, JENNIFER L	52,041.58	BUCZEK, CHRISTOPHER R	53,405.39
BACIGALUPO, BONNIE L	22,171.18	BULGER, CHERILYN A	57,775.33
BAILEY, CHRISTINE M	1,200.00	BUTLAND, BRENDA A	43,835.00
BALZARINI, HENRY L	2,430.00	BYRNE-BEGIN, KATHERINE T	72,733.44
BANNISTER, COLLEEN A	3,425.00	CALDWELL, WILLIAM J	38,435.35
BARILONE, SAMANTHA R	425.25	CALVI, MYRA J	72,325.44
BARRUS, SHIRLEY M	1,725.00	CARNIE, MARY C	73,415.22
BARTLETT, LYDIA L	58,575.66	CARPENTER, LUCILLE L	600.00
BASSO, JENNIFER A	1,237.50	CARTER-DUPRAS, BETH E	912.75
BATES, SHELLY A	58,339.67	CASCONI, JUSTIN M	375.00
BECK, BRIAN E	6,864.00	CASELLA, MARY K	16,281.59
BELLUARDO-COBB, SUZANNE E	2,225.25	CASIELLO, CATHERINE P	7,527.71
BENJAMIN, BONNIE B	78,467.85	CASTONGUAY, MARCIA A	25,731.80
BERGERON, DEBRA M	69,510.64	CASTONGUAY, SARA L	1,650.00
BERGQUIST DARLING, LORI S	8,658.24	CETTO, HOLLY A	58,353.09
BERLINGER, JOHN A	40,186.44	CHAGNON, MELISSA L	2,680.00
BERRY, JILL E	9,457.00	CHAMBERLAIN, RACHAEL M	33,652.00
BERTHIAUME, NANCY E	2,905.00	CHASE, ELLEN M	22,870.93
BERTRAND, LAUREEN G	71,744.25	CHAUVETTE, KEVIN P	1,386.00
BEVIS, DANIEL R	30,901.27	CHAUVETTE, SHARON A	27,451.64
BEZIO, JOYCE I	13,534.65	CHIASSON, SCOTT A	39,649.48
BILLINGHAM, DIANE L	39,048.80	CHIASSON, WILLIAM B	14,533.60
BILLINGHAM, GEOFFREY J	906.78	CLEGG, CAROL	500.00
BISHOP, RHONDA	11,400.52	CLEVELAND, TIMOTHY L	3,425.00
BLAKE, KATHLEEN M	10,598.87	CLIFFORD, PAUL P	5,487.75
BLANKENSHIP, ANDREA M	4,301.05	COLEMAN, CADY L	225.00
BODINE, BONNIE J	70,111.16	COLMENARES, KATHY J	80,509.96
BOND, ELIZABETH A	150.00	COOLEY, ANGELA M	79,491.66
BOUDREAU, SAMANTHA A	37,436.97	CROSBY, LAURA I	1,563.85
BOUTELL, DONNA	22,673.79	CUNHA, DAWN M	112.50
BRADY, DENNIS M	43,071.11	CUTTER, JOY C	675.00
BRAGADOTTIR, SIGRIDUR	2,625.00	DARCY, THOMAS A	22,282.44
BRAILEY, JENNIFER MARIE	3,090.17	DEASY, MICHAEL J	72,284.46

**ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SALARIES PAID DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014**

EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES	EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES
DEVAULT, BUNI B	22,801.96	GESNER, LAURA A	32,890.18
DEVENEAU, ANGELA J	22,185.25	GIANCATERINO, JENNIFER L	33,996.16
DICKSON, ROBERT	70,760.27	GILL, BRIAN C	500.00
DIVOLL, REBECCA J	17,224.52	GIROUARD, ERIN J	59,089.51
DONOVAN, JASON P	3,953.00	GLADDEN, COLLEEN R	21,880.47
DREW, CYNTHIA L	70,747.70	GODIN, DEBBIE J	51,139.00
DROUIN, CINDY E	71,677.53	GOLDTHWAITE, DARLENE E	72,926.13
DUFOUR, KATHLEEN C	8,199.17	GOSPODAREK, ELIZABETH A	63,707.78
DUGAS, DIANNA E	5,175.34	GRAHAM, MELISSA S	48,693.58
DUPLESSIS, SCOTT A	41,191.06	GRAHAM, SHEILA L	787.50
DUPRAY, AMIE L	2,380.00	GREEN, DOROTHY C	150.00
DURETTE, EMILY R	1,860.00	GROSKY, MITCHELL R	3,919.52
EASTMAN, DEBRA A	72,035.91	GRUTCHFIELD, MARY SCHISSEL	70,032.49
EDMONDS, GRACEMARIE S	9,050.18	HAGER, CYNTHIA C	21,993.80
EGAN MD, RONALD D	5,487.00	HAINS, FRANK E	73,832.37
ELIASZ, CHRISTINE L	71,325.44	HALL, SHEILA D	55,431.20
ELLIS, DIANNE M	91,080.00	HAMMONDS, MARALYN A	90.00
ELLIS, LISA M	19,414.74	HANDY, MARIE JANE	105,328.00
ERICKSON, KRISTIN M	6,430.94	HATCH, SHANNON M	1,087.50
ERICKSON, PATRICIA	38,188.80	HAYDOCY, TERRI-LYNNE	22,092.36
ERVIN, ELIZABETH N	115,642.00	HENDERSON, JANET G	1,137.75
EUVRARD, SHARON L	54,259.07	HERK, HEIDI A	11,391.43
FAHEY, DEREK A	2,245.00	HERK, TIMOTHY M	1,746.00
FAIRBANK, DONALD G	7,231.50	HEUER, HEIDI S	68,216.92
FERRANTI, JEFFREY L	104,545.00	HOLDEN, JENNIFER A	900.00
FISHER, NATHAN	1,386.00	HOPKINS, BRENDA J	16,631.00
FLAGG, APRIL L	12,065.67	HORRIGAN, KATHLEEN E	70,574.01
FLEMING, KATHLEEN C	450.00	HUBBLE, JENNIFER C	5,075.25
FOLMSBEE, MICHELE J	60.00	HUGHES, CYNTHIA A	38,406.80
FOSTER, THERESA L	22,262.49	HUGHES, MARGERY E	72,325.44
FRANCK, BARBARA	69,443.44	HUME, JAIME D	39,526.56
FRASER, RACHELLE	3,997.50	HUME, LORNE K	5,487.88
GABRENAS, JOSHUA P	31,211.54	HUNTER, ELLY T	67,847.49
GABRENAS, JOYCE	31,677.32	HUNTER, SCOTT A	70,441.13
GADAROWSKI, JESSICA A	3,020.00	HUTCHINSON, RONALD K	5,052.23
GAIGNARD, HYMELED E	8,175.00	IRIZARRY, JULITZZA	860.00
GALVIN, JESSICA L	1,503.11	JACKSON, JOHN W	2,185.00
GAMBILL, TRACY L	6,521.66	JACKSON, LINDA A	6,306.53
GATAUTIS, SUSAN R	2,450.25	JASKOVIK, LINDA L	71,239.91
GATES, TABATHA E	4,329.59	JEFFERY, BRANDON J	1,746.00
GAUVIN, MATTHEW	72,290.43	JELLEY, CHERYL A	58,300.59

**ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SALARIES PAID DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014**

EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES	EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES
JENNINGS, LAURIE J	4,252.75	MARYNOK, JULIE M	60,033.00
JOHNSON, TRACY E	55,596.39	MCBRIDE, TAMMY	16,733.55
JOHNSON, VICKI L	4,876.00	MCCARTHY, DONNA M	50,319.72
JOHNSTONE, SHERRY A	23,681.61	MCDONALD, SHARON S	66,201.15
JOLLY, TREFFLE J	5,362.50	MCGRATH, PAMELA J	24,565.96
JONES, CHRISTOPHER S	3,839.43	MCGUIRK, BETTY J	7,707.98
JONES, LEAH M	71,088.61	MCLAREN, BARBARA J	10,000.00
KIMBALL, KIMBERLY P	1,581.30	MCLAUGHLIN, MARYELLEN A	70,721.72
KIMBALL, RICHARD E JR	45,953.33	MELANSON, CORINNE M	1,150.34
KING, DAVID P	76,661.45	MELANSON, DEANNA M	18,943.17
KING, DENISE M	10,903.16	MELANSON, VICTOR G	19,390.89
KING, SARAH S	80,177.36	MELLO, MARIE F	165.43
KNECHTEL, SALLI A	56,732.97	MELUS, CATELYNN D	45,222.40
KOULISIS, CATHERINE	15,462.39	MERCIER, CAROL ANN	150.00
KOZIAK, AMY-BETH	64,057.78	MERCIER, JAMES A	16,780.48
L'ECUYER, AMANDA J	1,087.50	MERRON, BERNADETTE H	78,380.45
LABOMBARDE, PATRICIA A	87,092.15	MERRON, KYLE M	19,928.34
LAJOIE, DONNA R	72,042.16	MERWIN, LINDA M	25,640.18
LAJOIE, MARIE A	31,749.12	MEUNIER, LUKE D	600.00
LAJOIE, NICOLE M	37,638.22	MEYER, STEVEN C	112,161.04
LAKE, JOHN E JR	450.00	MICHELSON, MICHELE C	1,110.00
LAMOTHE, LORENE B	58,339.45	MILLER, MARY ANN	73,225.76
LAROCHE, JENNIFER	60,468.41	MIRANDA, CHRISTINE A	74,325.44
LAROSE, WILLIAM P	80,167.98	MITRANO, KEVIN M	40,418.91
LATHAM, KAYLA A	16,761.71	MOOMAW, CHRISTINA GRACE	2,262.75
LATOUR, JANET P	10,662.50	MORRIS, CLAIRE A	31,174.08
LAWRENCE, ROSE I	31,677.32	MOSALL, ALISON M	43,052.91
LAWTON, MARLENE A	53,349.28	MUZZY, MELISSA A	29,590.70
LEANDER, MICHAEL S	86,800.00	NEEDLE, JENNIFER E	4,117.86
LEESHA, KIMBERLY M	52,275.45	NEEDLE, JOSEPH G	47,696.38
LEIGHTON, AMANDA N	2,450.00	NEEDLE, KELLYANN	6,474.49
LEWANDOWSKI-HARDING, TINA M	71,007.42	NEEDLE, MICHAEL J	1,890.54
LITCHFIELD, NANCY L	38,188.80	NEWTON, BONNEY J	25,374.09
MACKINNON, KERI A	53,504.87	NYE, AMANDA J	900.00
MAGAZU, AIMEE	75,554.75	OLSEN, JEANNE M	18,239.77
MAGEE, ROSEMARY	76,949.78	OTTO, KAREN S	68,212.15
MAILLET, VICKI M	55,239.14	PAGAR WEIN, AMANDA BETH	61,061.30
MALLET, DAYNA R	7,160.18	PANDISCIO, NATALIE J	1,050.00
MANN, THERESA L	24,596.87	PARKER, ALLYSON J	637.50
MANNING, KEVIN W	75.00	PARKER, AMBER M	4,878.00
MARTIN, SUZANNE L	26,210.34	PARKER, CHERYL A	24,984.36

**ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SALARIES PAID DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014**

EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES	EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES
PARKER, RENEE A	17,969.96	ROBINSON, JOSEPH E	12,644.82
PARKER, SAMANTHA L	937.50	ROBINSON, LAURA L	67,324.72
PARKER, TERRY L	5,199.23	ROBINSON, LINDA A	74,497.06
PARTRIDGE, JEAN S	7,007.01	ROGERS, CAROL	32,193.96
PATRIA, BRIAN E	2,082.00	ROGERS, KEVIN A	54,708.48
PEREZ, MELISSA J	80,815.85	ROSS, DEBRA A	71,935.91
PIERCE, SUSAN M	54,516.43	ROSS, MALYNDA J	51,354.39
PIEROPAN DETHIER, MARIA D	75,902.39	ROULEAU, CHRISTINE M	16,074.40
PIRAGIS, DEBORAH M	70,587.53	ROULEAU, ROBERT G	49,425.30
PISCITELLO, ALECIA M	63,611.93	ROULEAU, THERESA A	9,240.40
PISTORINO, JULIE	67,696.02	ROY, ANNE M	81,545.18
PLOTKIN, CORLENA M	70,502.37	SAISA, PHILLIP E	4,391.00
PLUMMER, TINA J	1,960.00	SAWIN, JOY D	20,421.74
POLITO, ANTHONY T	173,250.00	SCHWAB REHORKA, RACHEL A	67,643.52
POLLARD, JUDITH M	20,944.52	SEPPALA, CARL W	62,334.44
PORTER, BRENDA J	7,022.30	SHAUGHNESSY, MEGAN E	8,790.00
POWERS, ANN M	2,400.00	SHERIDAN, DENIELLE K	3,468.00
PRICE, LYNN M	3,275.25	SHERIDAN, ROBERT L II	23,223.39
PROGEN, SHAWN T	36,629.73	SILVAR, CHRISTINE A	2,187.75
PROVENCHER, KATHLEEN	16,061.19	SIMKEWICZ, LAUREN J	66,706.45
PROVOST, LOIS C	71,235.96	SKUTNIK, EDWARD W	93,000.00
QUINTON, JOSEPH P	74,989.53	SLYVA, JILLIAN M	47,612.94
QUINTON, SALLY A	68,412.15	SNELL, BRIAN E	63,118.74
RANUCCI, CATHERINE H	3,425.59	SOLTYSIK, JESSICA M	1,387.50
RATHBURN, MARK A	23,399.61	SONN, CONSTANCE J	72,390.91
RAYMOND, CAROL	1,762.50	SOUCIE, ANN M	93.92
REARDON, ELAINE A	68,580.90	SOUCIE, CATHERINE M	2,278.25
REED, GRACE M	17,547.42	ST.CYR, AMY L	22,459.59
RENNIE, BRENDA S	75.00	STANLEY, JULIE A	77,542.46
REXROAD, KAREN	24,408.30	STARKEY, CHARLES D	40,297.81
RIBEIRO, JASMINE L	51,737.53	STEVE, KATHRYN A	75,825.44
RICHARDSON, JANET R	71,755.64	STEWART, ASHLEY TM	1,912.50
RIDDELL, CASEY L	961.97	STIMSON, CYNTHIA C	69,061.72
RIX, DENISE M	23,987.11	STJEAN, DAVID D	64,348.22
ROBERTS, ANN-MARIE	33,518.96	STJEAN, EILEEN M	62,409.26
ROBERTSON, ANDREA C	5,600.25	STONE, SALLY A	74,825.44
ROBERTSON, ROBERT E	3,425.00	STOPEN, LYNNE E	72,956.73
ROBERTSON, ROBYN C	70,656.94	TADDEO, ANTHONY S	39,447.75
ROBERTSON, RUTH K	35,716.02	TALBOT, GWEN L	24,021.63
ROBICHAUD, BRENT M	240.00	TALBOT, JOSHUA M	3,148.00
ROBICHAUD, SUSAN	712.50	TAMULEVICH, CHRISTOPHER W	31,645.96

**ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SALARIES PAID DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014**

EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES	EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES
TANDY SONGER, SUSAN R	72,159.42		
TARBELL, LISA A	2,525.25		
TARGETT, KELLEY M	55,955.33		
TELICKI, THOMAS D	89,660.39		
TENNEY, LISA A	68,411.60		
THURBER, MIKAELA A	72,025.44		
TRASK, JANICE M	24,585.68		
TRIFILO, RAE-ANN E	30,240.00		
TRIOZZI, DAVID M	70,275.13		
TRIOZZI, JACQUELINE	71,035.91		
TRUEHART, CAITLYN M	11,160.05		
TURNER, DAWNA L	2,399.95		
VAIDULAS, KENNETH A	8,492.70		
VARGELETIS, VIVIAN K	28,972.49		
VERHEYEN, HALEY C	1,386.00		
VEROCK, JESSICA M	56,520.06		
VITELLO, MARIA L	19,407.49		
VOUTILA, CYNTHIA A	75,682.64		
WALLACE, SEAN A	53,248.53		
WALSH, RUTH E	10,137.75		
WEBB, SHEILA M	64,434.53		
WEBSTER, JAY C	53,661.94		
WENTZ, ANGELA C	6,817.00		
WESSEL, DOUGLAS C	73,322.53		
WESTON, JEFF	82,481.34		
WHIPPIE, CHRISTINA L	5,601.55		
WHITE, CATHLEEN J	1,403.75		
WHITESTONE, JANICE A	300.00		
WHITMAN, DANIELLE M	450.00		
WHITMORE, PETER D	68,259.94		
WILLHITE, JESSICA L	49,602.50		
WILLIAMS, JANETH H	100,000.00		
WILLIAMS, KEITH W	74,344.44		
WILLIAMS, MEGHAN K	4,000.00		
WINTERS, SUSAN J	27,995.50		
WOESSNER, MICHAEL D	68,582.09		
WOLFE, JOSHUA M	3,162.35		
ZIGULOSKI, JAMIE L	18,591.98		

Athol-Royalston Regional School District
2013-2014 School Year

Athletic Department Report

INTERSCHOLASTIC TEAMS

	VARSITY	Participants	Paid Coaches	Volunteer Coaches	Record	Tournament Appearance
1	Football	18	2	1	3-8	No
2	Boys Soccer	14	1	1	9-7-2	Yes
3	Girls Soccer	19	1	0	10-8-4	Yes
4	Girls Volleyball	10	1	0	18-4	Yes
5	Field Hockey	14	1	0	0-18	No
6	Football Cheerleading	12	1	0	n/a	n/a
7	Boys Basketball	10	1	0	2-18	No
8	Girls Basketball	9	1	0	19-3	Yes
9	Wrestling	13	1	1	8-8	n/a
10	Basketball Cheerleading	12	1	0	n/a	n/a
11	Boys Indoor Track	9	1	0	3-6	n/a
12	Girls Indoor Track	11	1	0	3-6	n/a
13	Baseball	12	1	1	13-10	Yes
14	Softball	12	1	2	14-6	Yes
15	Boys Volleyball	10	1	1	14-5	Yes
16	Boys Track and Field	11	1	0	0-7	n/a
17	Girls Track and Field	24	1	0	4-4	n/a
		220	18	7		

JUNIOR VARSITY

1	Football	10	1	0
2	Boys Soccer	14	1	0
3	Girls Soccer	16	1	0
4	Girls Volleyball	13	1	0
5	Field Hockey	8	1	0
6	Boys Basketball	10	1	0
7	Girls Basketball	10	1	0
8	Baseball	11	1	0
9	Softball	10	1	0
10	Boys Volleyball	14	1	0
		116	10	0

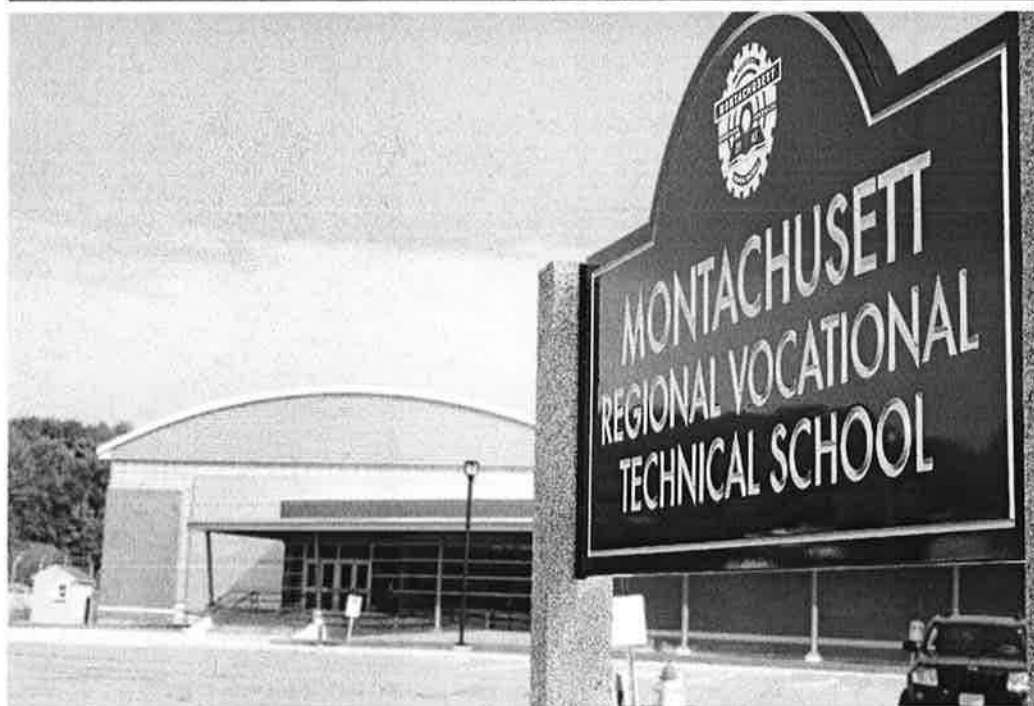
MIDDLE SCHOOL

1	Football	35	2	1
2	Boys Soccer	15	1	0
3	Girls Soccer	18	1	0
4	Field Hockey	0	0	0
5	Boys Basketball	15	1	0
6	Girls Basketball	15	1	1
7	Wrestling	13	1	1
8	Basketball Cheerleading	12	1	0
9	Baseball	15	1	0
10	Softball	15	1	0
11	Track and Field	30	1	0
		183	11	3

Undefeated Season



2013 - 2014 Annual Report



**Montachusett Regional
Vocational Technical School**
1050 Westminster Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-345-9200
www.montytech.net



Having only been recently named the Superintendent-Director of Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, I am honored and delighted to present the district's 2013-2014 annual report. It was a year marked by student achievement, faculty and staff distinctions, and leadership development - as well as transition. Compiling information for the enclosed report has provided me with an opportunity to get to know the students, faculty and staff that comprise this wonderful school, and to reflect upon their tremendous achievements and activities. I am fortunate to work closely with a talented leadership team, many of whom have contributed to this report, and given great insight into some of the more notable highlights of the 2013-2014 academic year, including:

- Students at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to demonstrate high academic achievement. In the spring of 2014, Monty Tech's passing rate on the MCAS English Language Arts exam was 100%, Mathematics 98%, and Biology 99%.
- Competing in three categories: network security, digital forensics, and Cisco networking, a team of six talented students captured second place at the CyberPatriot event, a national high school cyber defense competition, founded by the Air Force Association.
- Class of 2014 graduate, Jessica Shattuck of Fitchburg was presented with the *Legion of Valor* award, the highest award a JROTC cadet may receive, recognizing academic excellence and extraordinary leadership skills.
- Ten students advanced through local, district and state competitions to earn the right to compete at the National SkillsUSA Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. The Monty Tech national delegation returned with a bronze medal in Action Skills.
- Monty Tech continues to participate in the highly selective Student Spaceflight Experiment Program, representing the only vocational school in the nation to have a student science experiment launch into space, and providing students with an opportunity to study the effects of gravity on their science project.

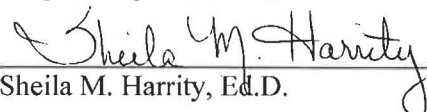
As you know, a Monty Tech education is grounded in workforce preparedness, balanced by a rigorous academic curriculum. Everyday at Monty Tech, one guiding principle is evident - our students must be ready for both college and career. Students are prepared with industry-recognized credentials and skills to be successful in the world of work. And for those students whose future may include higher education, Monty Tech offers dual enrollment courses, articulation agreements, and Advanced Placement courses that may significantly reduce the amount of time and money spent on a college education.

We are so proud of the educational programs offered here at Monty Tech, yet we continually strive to improve upon them. Collaborating with area colleges and universities, we are ensuring our curriculum and instruction is rigorous and relevant. Sharing best practices with vocational-technical colleagues from across the state – and nation – we give and take some of the best ideas, with one thing in mind – what is best for our students.

We hope you will find this report a comprehensive review of the quality education you have come to know and expect from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School. You may notice that each of the eighteen member cities and towns are reflected in this report, and that students performed services in almost every community last year. Providing our students with an opportunity to give back to the communities that support them – and support our school – is a pleasure.

I am honored to serve as Superintendent-Director of Monty Tech, a school that continues to transform secondary education in North Central Massachusetts, bringing to life lessons learned in a classroom, at the workplace, and in the community – all while consistently maintaining high standards of fiscal responsibility. Our FY14 Annual Budget was unanimously accepted by each of the eighteen member communities, and reflected only a 2.0% increase over the 2012-2013 Educational Plan. We recognize that we are in the midst of some difficult economic times faced by public education and so we will continue to seek creative ways to reduce member town assessments, while maintaining our high standards of academic and vocational-technical success.

Respectfully submitted,


Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D.

Our Mission

Every student will graduate from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School with the skills, knowledge, and abilities to be a productive and effective member of an ever-changing society.

Our District

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is a four-year career and technical high school serving the member towns of:

Ashburnham
Ashby
Athol
Barre
Fitchburg
Gardner

Harvard
Holden
Hubbardston
Lunenburg
Petersham
Phillipston

Princeton
Royalston
Sterling
Templeton
Westminster
Winchendon

Leadership

The leadership team at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is comprised of ten talented administrators whose varied educational backgrounds, professional experiences, and areas of expertise contribute to the success of the school. Working collaboratively, and under the direction of the Superintendent and Principal, the team has been able to transform the school into one of the most sought-after high schools in North Central Massachusetts.

Sheila M. Harrity, Superintendent-Director
Tom Browne, Principal
Tammy Crockett, Business Manager
Kim Curry, Dean of Admissions
Francine Duncan, Director of Technology

Christina Favreau, Director of Academic Programs
Jim Hachey, Director of Vocational Programs
Richard Ikonen, Director of Facilities
Katy Whitaker, Development Coordinator
Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Support Services

Enrollment

On June 1, 2014, student enrollment at Monty Tech included 1,403 students in grades nine through twelve. Students are represented from every community in the district: Ashburnham (54), Ashby (37), Athol (93), Barre (35), Fitchburg (364), Gardner (158), Harvard (3), Holden (68), Hubbardston (61), Lunenburg (70), Petersham (4), Phillipston (21), Princeton (17), Royalston (22), Sterling (56), Templeton (100), Westminster (77), and Winchendon (133). The remaining thirty students were from out-of-district towns, including Clinton, Leominster, Natick, Orange, Pepperell, Rutland, Shirley, West Boylston, and Worcester.

Throughout 2013-2014, Monty Tech offered a variety of opportunities for students, parents, and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October 2013, approximately 1,000 district eighth graders participated in the annual "Tour Day" event. Students toured our twenty-vocational/technical areas and learned about the school's challenging academic offerings and exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. Career Awareness Night offered interested students the opportunity to return in the evening with their family members, to further explore the facilities and talk with staff members.

Each year, the Dean of Admissions conducts school visits, student interviews, and accepts applications for admissions. 2013-2014 proved to be an exceptionally busy year for her, as the school received 730 applications for admission. Of those, 642 were from students hoping to enter our incoming freshman class. The balance of the applications came from students hoping to enter the school as upperclassmen. Because

there are only a limited number of students the school can accept each year, 367 freshmen and 19 upperclassmen were admitted.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) offers area seventh and eighth grade students the chance to visit Monty Tech after school, and participate in hands-on learning experiences across a variety of vocational/technical areas. The program continued to attract a large number of students during the 2013-2014 school year, serving approximately 600 area students.

Class of 2014 Awards

Members of the Class of 2014 were awarded approximately \$50,000 in scholarships. The Monty Tech Foundation generously provided \$34,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors, ranging in amounts of \$250 to \$2,500. The Foundation also awarded \$6,000 to the practical nursing graduates. Once again, local and state organizations, as well as generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of financial donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates themselves, are grateful for this support.

Articulation Agreements with local colleges also play an important role in helping reduce the cost of higher education. Qualified Monty Tech students are eligible to receive college credits through a number of articulation agreements with public and private colleges across the country. Well over 60% of the graduating class of 2014 reported plans to enroll at either a 2-year college, 4-year college/university, or a technical/trade school upon graduation. By earning college credits while still in high school, these students will benefit by saving both time and money as they pursue advanced educational programs.

Financial Report

In an effort to develop a cost-effective budget for the fiscal year 2013-2014, a great deal of effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration and staff. The final fiscal year 2013-2014 Educational Plan totaled \$24,785,280, which represents a 2.0% increase over the 2012-2013 Educational Plan. As a result of changes to the final FY14 State budget and the District's decision not to increase the already-approved community assessments, the District's FY14 budget was approximately \$200,000 below the minimum spending required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70.

The District was audited in August 2014 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Co. from Greenfield, MA and a very good report is anticipated.

Grants and Contracts

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. These funds assist in providing many educational and social services to the student population. For fiscal year 2014, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$842,780. Programs funded by these grants include: Essential Health Services, Social Intervention and Mediation, Improving Teacher Quality, Special Education Services and Program Improvement, Title I Support, Perkins Occupational Education, and Summer Academic Support.

In addition to state and federal grant sources, Monty Tech was also the recipient of private and competitive grant awards totaling \$525,000. Included in that total are a number of highly competitive awards, including a \$400,000 award from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, used to provide

training in the new vocational-technical education frameworks to over 350 educators across the Commonwealth, and a \$42,500 award from the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, used to purchase one adult patient simulator, which will provide our Health Occupations students with unprecedented training opportunities, as the device manifests vital signs, clinical signs and symptoms. Allocation and competitive grants totaled \$1,367,780 for fiscal year 2014.

Academic Achievement


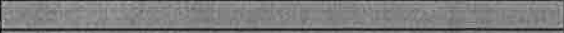









In 2013-2014, students at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to demonstrate high academic achievement, earning commendable MCAS scores in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Biology. In the spring of 2014, Monty Tech's passing rate on the English Language Arts exam was 100%, Mathematics 98%, and Biology 99%.

English Language Arts	2012	2013	2014
Students Tested	361	352	364
Passing	100%	99%	100%
Advanced/ Proficient	95%	95%	95%
Needs Improvement	5%	5%	5%
Failing	0%	1%	0%

Mathematics	2012	2013	2014
Students Tested	360	352	366
Passing	99%	98%	98%
Advanced/Proficient	87%	80%	84%
Needs Improvement	12%	18%	14%
Failing	1%	2%	2%

Biology	2012	2013	2014
Students Tested	361	398	351
Passing	98%	97%	99%
Advanced/ Proficient	73%	73%	74%
Needs Improvement	24%	24%	25%
Failing	2%	3%	1%

The district continues to make progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps. Students in all subgroups have met their progress and performance targets, continuing the school's Level 1 Status distinction.

Student Group	On Target = 75 or higher	Performance	Progress
All Students		81	Met Target
High Needs		79	Met Target
Low Income		84	Met Target
ELL and Former ELL		-	-
Students with Disabilities		81	Met Target
American Indian/ Alaska Native		-	-
Asian		-	-
African/American/Black		-	-
Hispanic/ Latino		93	Met Target
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		-	-
White		84	Met Target

Vocational Projects in the District Communities

Unlike students in traditional, comprehensive high schools, students at Monty Tech are asked to put their education into practice on a daily basis. Students across the twenty different vocational-technical education programs are building homes, reconstructing damaged properties, repairing service vehicles, making walkways more accessible, and performing countless community services.

The 2013-2014 school year was a busy one for our vocational educators, as each trade aimed to provide practical, hands-on learning experiences for our students, while helping to improve each of the eighteen member communities.

Auto Body: Collision Repair Technology: Throughout 2013-2014, the program completed seventy requests for service and repair work. Students detailed police vehicles, installed new fenders and repainted several town vehicles, benefiting the school, police and fire departments in local communities. With assistance from several other departments, the program hosted the annual car show, which was a tremendous success. Students also competed in the *World of Wheels* competition, held in Boston, and were awarded first place in the pedal car building competition. (Total enrollment: 60; 36 males, 24 females)

Automotive Technology: The Automotive Technology program saw a very busy year, marked by curriculum changes that instructors believe will benefit every student. Aligning state frameworks with NATEF standards, instructors purchased new textbooks and developed new lessons, designed to enhance the learning experience. The program also successfully completed the NATEF Master Automobile Service Technology recertification process, which occurs every five years. Because the Monty Tech program continues to hold this rigorous certification, students qualify for articulated credits at area colleges upon program completion. A top student, Brian Nielsen of Ashby was awarded a gold medal at the SkillsUSA state competition, and traveled to the national competition in June 2014. The program also supported eight students in the co-operative education program, and a total of fourteen students were employed within the industry. These students gained valuable workplace experience, applying the skills they learned in the rigorous automotive technology program, and received high praise from their employers. Finally, in addition to all of these accomplishments, program students and instructors completed work on more than 400 vehicles, including those of faculty, staff, retirees, district residents, and municipal vehicles. (Total enrollment: 54; 44 males, 10 females)

Business Technology: Students and instructors in the Business Technology program continue to enjoy an increased presence in the school community, providing assistance to shops and offices throughout the school by coordinating bulk mailing, labeling, organizing, and collating jobs. Offices that receive direct support from the Business Technology program include: Monty Tech Nurses' Office, front office, Monty Tech Tea Room, and Student Support Services. Students also assist wherever there is a customer service need, as in the annual greenhouse project, directed by Mr. Dylan Hager. Students serve as customer service representatives and cashiers for this very busy seasonal operation. Students also run a successful school store, The Gear House, refining their skills in cash handling, customer service, organization, and marketing. (Total enrollment: 76; 14 males, 62 females)

Cabinetmaking: The Monty Tech Cabinetmaking program is delighted to report the acquisition of a new and much-needed piece of equipment – a CNC Machining Center, which effectively utilizes a variety of software programs. Having this new equipment will allow instructors to teach specific skills that the industry and area employers demand. Throughout the year, students spent a great deal of time building and installing cabinetry in a number of public offices throughout the Monty Tech district, including: Westminster Town Hall weights and measure scale cabinet; Cherry sign for the Fitchburg Fire Department; two podiums for the Town of Athol; a cherry buffet for the United Way offices in Fitchburg; display cases for the Gardner Elks; and counter tops built and installed at the Barre Police Station. Finally, the program saw nine students benefit from co-operative learning experiences with area employers. Both students and employers reported enjoying the mutually beneficial experience. (Total enrollment: 72; 46 males, 26 females)

Cosmetology: Providing students with opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials and certifications is a guiding principle in the Cosmetology department. Twenty-three seniors sat for the State Board Exams, and all twenty-three passed and are now licensed cosmetologists. More than half of the graduating seniors remain in the industry. Students in their junior year of the program, who are primarily responsible for managing the “clinic floor”, provided numerous services that resulted in total sales in excess of \$9,000. Monty Tech Cosmetology instructors continued to promote community service, and as a result, this year the program supported a classmate’s Youth Venture Club project, raising more than \$650 for this very worthwhile organization. (Total enrollment: 90; 1 male, 89 females)

Culinary Arts: Students and instructors in the Monty Tech Culinary Arts program are among the busiest in our school. In addition to operating a full-service dining room and bakery, which serves 90-120 patrons daily, culinary students showcase their talents at trade shows and competitions throughout the year. In 2013-2014, culinary arts students participated in three hot food competitions, and placed first on two of the events, where they were competing against area hotels, restaurants, and professional chefs. The program provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner, as well as support staff, for a number of events for public organizations, including: Fitchburg Rotary Club, Montachusett Home Health Care, Senate Ways and Means Committee, Gardner AARP, and the Fitchburg City Council. The program was also fortunate to receive new equipment, including a combination steam convection oven, a kitchen video monitoring system, two new butcherblock tables, and a custom stainless steel bench with power supply. (Total enrollment: 101; 35 males, 66 females)

Dental Assisting: During 2013-2014, the Dental Assisting program placed 3 students in co-operative educational placements, working with area dentists. Fourteen students earned externships, while twelve students participated in affiliation. All sophomore, junior, and senior students attended the Yankee Dental Convention in Boston, and learned about the most current trends and practices in the field. While national passing averages for Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) exams range from 69% - 78%, the Monty Tech dental students earned a 94% passing rate on the Infection Control exam and an outstanding 100% passing rate on the Radiology exam. The program supported four students who traveled to the SkillsUSA national competitions. For the fourth consecutive year, Monty Tech welcomed Community Health Connections, a school-based dental hygiene program whose goal is to provide dental services to students in need. Through this initiative, thirty-two students were examined by a dentist, had their teeth cleaned, and had sealants or temporary fillings applied as needed. Monty Tech Dental Assisting students were given hands-on, practical experience, as they assisted the staff from CHC during each dental procedure that was performed. (Total enrollment: 62; 5 males, 57 females)

Drafting Technology: Students in the Drafting Technology program earned well-deserved recognition for their achievements in 2013-2014. Four seniors held co-op positions, four students were recognized for outstanding SkillsUSA achievements, and 90% of the program’s graduating seniors continue in the field of drafting, either by selecting a related college major or by entering the workforce in a related field. The shop continued to provide countless community services in the form of banners, signage, building plans, interior design plans, and decorating for school-sponsored events. Some of the more notable projects in 2013-2014 included: railings design for Harvard Public Schools; designed a Habitat for Humanity duplex in Fitchburg (*to be built by Monty Tech students and instructors 2014-2015*); landscape design services for the Forbush Library in Westminster; and completing the Fitchburg Fire Department seal. (Total enrollment: 56; 33 males, 23 females)

Early Childhood Education: Jordan Patricks earned a gold medal at the 2014 SkillsUSA state competitions in Action Skills. From there, she traveled to the national competitions, placing 3rd. She was accompanied by her classmate, Jessica Shattuck, who served as a National Voting Delegate and was also awarded the President’s Volunteer Service Award. These students represent the Monty Tech Early Childhood Education program well, as the program is known for a strong emphasis on community service, academic and vocational-technical excellence, and a commitment to continued education. During 2013-2014, Early Childhood Education students participated in the Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children’s Recognition Dinner, constructing twenty 3-dimensional children’s games to serve as centerpieces for the event. Students

volunteered at the *Boston Strong* relay held in Winchendon, organized and led children's activities at the annual ARC Christmas Party, and provided child care services for the mental health symposium held here at Monty Tech in May 2014. The Monty Tech Childcare Center continues to operate at full capacity, serves as a co-operative education site for two students, and successfully prepares their young students for transition into Kindergarten. The Center's Director, Ms. Kelley Booth, visits with prospective parents almost daily and handles frequent calls for Fall placement. (Total enrollment: 65; 2 males, 63 females)

Electrical: The Electrical program at Monty Tech continues to be one of the busiest trades in the school. During the 2013-2014 year, students and instructors completed a number of "outside projects" that include: installing new lighting at the Turkey Hill Middle School in Lunenburg, adding additional lighting receptacles at the Bromfield School in Harvard, adding additional receptacles and internet outlets in Barre, and rewiring a data network in Winchendon. Countless electrical projects were also completed in-house, including: library renovations, LED lighting on the outside of the school, and new equipment installations in a variety of vocational programs. The Electrical program is also particularly proud to have trained fourteen students who benefited from a co-op placement during the 2013-2014 school year, successfully applying what they have learned at Monty Tech in workplaces across North Central Massachusetts. (Total enrollment: 87; 76 males, 11 females)

Engineering Technology: The Monty Tech Engineering program continued to enhance their curriculum and instruction by embedding three Project Lead the Way courses into the already rigorous vocational-technical curriculum. Students performed quite well on the end of course assessments affiliated with the Project Lead the Way coursework, with nine students earning college credit in Principles of Engineering, seven students earning college credit in Introduction to Engineering Design, and eight students earning credit in Digital Electronics. These students may apply these credits at colleges and universities across the country. The exploratory program during the 2013-2014 school year yielded positive results for the program, with 12 students selecting Engineering Technology as their first choice. All thirteen seniors graduated, and reported plans to continue their education or continue working in the engineering field. Finally, instructors were pleased with the work done in their instructional space, citing better organization and increased safety. Instructors also look forward to further renovations in the instructional space, including a dropped ceiling, refinishing the floor, new work benches, and the installation of a second SMARTboard. (Total enrollment: 57; 45 males, 12 females)

Graphic Communications: The Monty Tech Graphic Communications program is pleased to have graduated twenty students, all of whom were accepted at a variety of colleges, including 2-year, 4-year, public, and private institutions. Throughout the 2013-2014 school year, the shop continued to produce large quantities of print projects for district towns and community service organizations. This year, the shop produced approximately three hundred twenty "outside" print projects, billing in excess of \$18,000 and saving area town offices and school districts over \$125,000. The shop also produced yearbooks for local institutions, saving each school approximately \$8,000 - \$10,000, as the billing only reflects the cost of materials. The Graphic Communications program also completed numerous "in house" projects in our student-operated copy center, including: over two million black and white copies, two hundred fifty thousand color copies, and over five hundred wide format prints. By industry standards, this would cost the district \$275,000. Our cost to complete these projects was only \$55,000, which resulted in a substantial savings of \$219,500. The program was fortunate to receive a number of equipment upgrades and pieces of new technology, including: Konica Minolta High Speed Copier, a Konica Minolta Office Color Copier, and ten (10) new iMac computers, each equipped with CS6 software. (Total enrollment: 83; 28 males, 55 females)

Health Occupations: The Health Occupations program at Monty Tech continues to educate a large number of students, providing a rigorous education grounded in current medical knowledge and practice. With guest speakers including a mortician, an emergency room physician, the American Red Cross and representatives from Battered Women's Resources, instructors aim to provide students with critical exposure to a variety of health-related career options. The program, which boasts an enrollment of more than one hundred students, continues to participate in community service programs, including Red Cross Blood Drives, Pediatric Day (in

conjunction with students from the Early Childhood Education program), and a “baby shower” for women living in a local battered women’s shelter. The Health Occupations program is dedicated to providing all students with opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials, and as a result, students earn the following credentials: Medical Terminology Certificate; Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10-hour certification; Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid Certificate through the American Heart Association; Certified Nursing Assistant License through the American Red Cross; and Certified Clinical Medical Assistant credential through the certifying board of the National Healthcare Association. (Total enrollment: 103; 7 males, 96 females)

House Carpentry: Most of the work done by the students and instructors in the Monty Tech House Carpentry program is done off-campus, completing renovation, building, and repair work for member communities. Some of the more notable projects from the 2013-2014 school year include: building two baseball dugouts (wood frame and asphalt shingle roofs) for Phillipston Elementary school; building four dugouts (wood frame, corrugated metal roofs, and PVCF trim); installing interior wall partitions, renovating exterior walls, and installing new windows at the Templeton Senior Center; building and installing cabinets at the Templeton Food Pantry; renovating the “booking room” at the Barre Police Station; installing a guard rail, small shed, handicapped ramp guardrail, and Police Station sign for the Town of Hubbardston; replacing deteriorated aluminum trim around the school entrance at the Lunenburg Primary School; and reconstructing and reroofing the West Fitchburg Gazebo. (Total enrollment: 61; 36 males, 25 females)

Industrial Technology: In 2013-2014, the Monty Tech Industrial Technology program added instructor Matt McGee to the talented team of educators. Mr. McGee’s great enthusiasm for the subject matter has been a welcome addition to the program, as he brings a wealth of both industry and teaching experience. Additionally, his immediate contributions to the program have resulted in revised and improved curriculum in interpreting technical drawings and prints, and troubleshooting problems in heating and cooling systems. In a program where students are called on for “a little bit of everything,” a great deal of work was done to assist local municipal offices in building upgrades and renovations. Some of the more notable outside projects include: conducting an energy audit for the Sterling Municipal Light Department, and making necessary upgrades to the Department of Public Works main building, in an effort to reduce energy consumption at this aging facility. The co-operative education program continues to be a highlight for students in the Industrial Technology program, as seven students were awarded co-op placements during the year. (Total enrollment: 54; 47 males, 7 females)

Information Technology: As with any school, Information Technology provides key services to the educational community. In addition to the critical in-house Help Desk services offered by the program, students and instructors performed in excess of four hundred hours of repair, upgrading, and troubleshooting computer problems for Monty Tech community members. Competing in three categories: network security, digital forensics, and Cisco networking, a team of six talented students (led by instructor Richard Duncan) captured second place at the CyberPatriot event, a national high school cyber defense competition, founded by the Air Force Association. A team of seven Information Technology students travelled to Fitchburg State University, and participated in a highly competitive programming event. The team placed 5th in a field of more than forty teams. Finally, to ensure program graduates are armed with valuable industry-recognized certifications, program instructors offer students the following certification opportunities: CIW Web Foundation certification (passing rate 56%), TestOut PC Pro certification (passing rate 69%), IC3 certification (passing rate 75%), Discover I Networking course (passing rate 100%), and Cisco IT Essential Course for Computer Repair and Maintenance (passing rate 88%). (Total enrollment: 60; 55 males, 5 females)

Machine Technology: The Monty Tech Machine Technology department was pleased to add a new piece of equipment to the training program, a Sinkers Electrical Discharge Machine (EDM), which will enable instructors to better prepare students to enter the workforce, and making them more marketable to area machine shops that utilize similar equipment. Two students advanced from the SkillsUSA district competition to compete at the state level, one in Precision Machining and the other in CNC Milling. The program is particularly proud of student efforts in Precision Machining at the state SkillsUSA competition, where a

Monty Tech student won a bronze medal. A total of thirteen (13) students were offered co-op employment, and were able to put their vocational education into practice at area machine shops. Students who remained at the school refined their skills by completing a number of special projects, including: manufacturing brass plaques to mark projects within the school and outside projects in Monty Tech communities, laser engraving plaques for the school's annual car show, and collaborating with Auto Body students to manufacture the rims, steering wheel, pedals, dashboard, and license plate for the pedal car that was entered into the *World of Wheels* competition, winning first prize. (Total enrollment: 63; 58 males, 5 females)

Masonry: Students and instructors in the Monty Tech Masonry program were busy on our campus, as well as in many of the member communities throughout the 2013-2014 school year. Community services included: building four block dugouts at Quabbin High School in Barre, installing concrete anchors for a batting cage at Ashburnham's Little League field, installing stone veneer on a concrete wall at Bromfield School for Harvard Access Television, installing a tile floor at the Barre Police Station, replacing a concrete floor for the Winchendon Housing Authority, completing tile and concrete repairs at Lunenburg High School, installing benches for Phillipston and Templeton Little League, and tiling three bathrooms and a stone veneer at the Westminster Senior Center. When students weren't busy in our district communities, they were preparing for and competing in the Massachusetts Trowel Trades Association (MTTA) competition. The annual event was held at Monty Tech, which brought seventy-two competitors and a total of two hundred fifty people to our campus in the spring of 2014. Finally, Masonry students performed particularly well in the district and state SkillsUSA competitions, where one student was awarded a gold medal and earned the right to travel to the national event in Kansas City, Missouri in June 2014. (Total enrollment: 71; 60 males, 11 females)

Plumbing: The Plumbing program welcomed a new instructor, Ms. Melissa Blanchard to the team of talented instructors, filling a vacancy that was left after longtime Plumbing instructor, Mr. John Dolen, retired after more than twenty years of service. Ms. Blanchard is a welcome addition to the program, whose depth of both industry and instructional experience is a steady and valuable resource for students and instructors alike. Prioritizing employability, the Plumbing instructors worked closely with the district's Co-Op Coordinator, Ken Baer, to provide all students in their junior year an opportunity to develop a comprehensive professional resume, and participate in the mock interview program. This experience will help students as they transition into the world of work. The Plumbing program is particularly proud to have trained seven students (more than 20% of the junior and senior class) who were given an opportunity to demonstrate their technical skills in a co-operative educational placement. The Monty Tech Plumbing program, like others throughout the school, is committed to community service, and as a result, during the 2013-2014 school year, students and instructors completed rough drainage work at the Templeton Senior Center, and installed plumbing and heating systems in an unused space at the Bromfield School in Harvard, which is now home to the Harvard Community Cable Access Group. The Monty Tech Plumbing program proudly graduated sixteen students in the Class of 2014. Two students, in particular, received prestigious trade awards/recognitions: Matthew Parmenter (Winchendon) was named a Vocational-Technical All-Star by the Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association of Massachusetts; and Shane Lashua (Westminster) was awarded the highly competitive Central Massachusetts Plumbing & Gas Fitting Inspectors Association scholarship. (Total enrollment: 69; 67 males, 2 females)

Welding/Metal Fabrication: The Welding/Metal Fabrication program is charged with successfully completing numerous projects on the Monty Tech campus, including repair work, layout, design, and installation. In conjunction with other trades at the school, students and instructors in the Welding/Metal Fabrication program are instrumental in the successful completion of many of the school's building renovation initiatives. In addition to the more than 60 miscellaneous projects successfully completed by students during the 2013-2014 school year, students and instructors worked collaboratively to complete the following community service projects: fabricated and welded a 31 ft. multi-section guard rail for the Bromfield School in Harvard; rebuilt a 10 ft. plow for the Winchendon Schools; fabricated and welded edge protectors for the Winchendon Housing Authority; fabricated and welded a handrail for the Hubbardston Slade Building; fabricated signs for the Town of Ashburnham fields; designed, fabricated, and welded six park benches for the Johnny Appleseed Trail Association in Fitchburg; and fabricated and welded wall mount brackets for the Fitchburg Fire Department.

The program was pleased to place ten top students in co-operative education work experiences across the district. (Total enrollment: 59; 52 males, 7 females)

Special Services

During the 2013-2014 school year, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided special services to approximately three hundred students – measuring progress of over two hundred students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and just under one hundred students adhering to individualized Section 504 plans. While the Student Support Services (SSS) Department encompasses special education, the department provides support and is available to all Monty Tech students.

The department includes a full-time nursing staff that administers medications, performs state-mandated health screening exams, and provides, when necessary, health information to the special education team for a student's IEP meeting. The department benefits from a full-time school social worker who participates in departmental meetings and assists students who have needs concerning finances, family issues, homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. The school is also fortunate to have on staff a full-time psychologist, whose role it is to evaluate all students referred for an initial evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. In addition, we have a full-time speech pathologist, who is available to assist students with disabilities, assess these students and consult with teachers. Our students also have access to the services of a full-time adjustment counselor and part-time school psychologist. All of these individuals are available for scheduled counseling sessions and mental health emergency treatment, as well as crisis intervention.

The school's Director of Student Support Services oversees the district's Special Education Program, which is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulatory requirements. The comprehensive review and evaluation are done in collaboration with the Parent Advisory Council, and the results of the evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs in place at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School.

Technology

In 2013-2014 Monty Tech continued the process of improving our network infrastructure to meet future needs. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's initiative to replace the current MCAS student assessment testing system with PARCC, an online student assessment testing system, is the driving force for such improvements in school districts across the state.

Monty Tech has completed the upgrade of the network core switch and other network switches throughout the building. Internet bandwidth was increased, and will increase further in 2014-2015. A second firewall was added to reduce the possibility of internet downtime. In July 2013, the school installed building-wide wireless access. We believe these improvements put the school in a position of being ready for the new PARCC assessment pilot testing scheduled for Spring 2015.

In December 2013, the library re-opened after a lengthy renovation. The library is equipped with laptops and a high-resolution projection system, and is home to two "quiet rooms" and one classroom, equipped with laptops and a SMARTboard.

Monty Tech continues to replace and add technology equipment and software so that students and staff gain experience with newer technology. The school added SMARTboards in several classrooms during the year. In addition, the Special Education department began using iPods as an e-reader assistive technology tool. Administrators began using iPads and Teachpoint teacher evaluation software to meet the reporting

requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) educator evaluation system.

SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America had a skilled workforce. Through our association with Skills USA, our students develop job skills, leadership and professional skills, as well as provide community service.

Led by co-advisors, Ms. Kelsey Moskowitz, English teacher, Anne Marie Cataldo, Early Childhood Education Instructor, and Brad Pelletier, Special Education teacher, 2013-2014 proved to be a remarkable year for the Monty Tech SkillsUSA chapter. Highlights of the year include:

- Fitchburg resident, and Dental Assisting student, Brittany Velez, served as SkillsUSA National Secretary.
- Fifteen students attended the Annual Fall State Leadership Conference. The conference spanned three days, and presented the students with an opportunity to develop leadership skills and perform community service at an area YMCA Day Camp.
- The SkillsUSA local competition was held in December 2013/ January 2014. The competitions took place over a three-week period, and included leadership competitions as well as technical and skill based competitions. The event culminated in a Local Awards Ceremony, held at the school on January 29, 2014.
- Winners from the local competition advanced to the district competitions, held at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School. There, a grand total of thirty-nine (39) medals were captured by Monty Tech students - fourteen (14) gold, fourteen (14) silver, and eleven (11) bronze medals. Three students also qualified to run for the State Executive Council.
- Two students, Jessica Shattuck (Early Childhood Education) and Cassandra Campbell (Drafting Technology), served on the State Advisory Committee to help aid in the planning of the State Conference.
- A total of sixty-seven (67) students attended the State Leadership and Skills Conference, also held at Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical School. Traveling to the highly competitive conference were twenty-nine (29) District Medalist and qualifiers, thirteen (13) local leadership contestants, three (3) state officer candidates, and twenty-two (22) voting delegates. The event culminated with fourteen (14) medals and ten (10) students earning the right to compete at the National Leadership & Skills Conference held in Kansas City, Missouri in late June. Russell Holbert, Jessica Shattuck and Cassandra Campbell were selected to be national voting delegates.
- Five students also traveled to the National Conference, where they received the coveted President's Volunteer Service Award.
- In June 2014, fifteen students and six instructors attended the National Leadership & Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo. There, Jordan Patrick, a junior in Early Childhood Education (from Holden) received a bronze medal in Action Skills.

- Throughout the year, students participated in a number of community service projects, including: a “Change for Children” Campaign; a holiday party and celebration for children in the Fitchburg area; Salvation Army “Christmas Angels” were distributed to collect toys and gifts for underprivileged children; Raffle to benefit Be Like Brit Foundation and The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism.

Marine Corps JROTC

The Monty Tech Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (MCJROTC) had an eventful school year with enrollment exceeding 190 students. For the first time in its twelve-year history, the Monty Tech program was proud to see a cadet awarded the *Legion Of Valor* award. This is the highest award a deserving cadet may receive, recognizing academic excellence and extraordinary leadership skills. The *Legion of Valor* award was presented to Jessica Shattuck of Fitchburg by the Commanding General of Marine Corps Training and Education Command.

The JROTC Cyber Security Team, led by First Sergeant Paul Jornet and Information Technology Instructor Richard Duncan, once again captured national recognition by placing second in the Air Force Association’s National Cyber Security Competition held in Washington, DC.

The 2013-2014 Corps of Cadets completed over eighty-six hundred hours (8,600+) of community service throughout the district. The corps conducted a major canned food drive, worked side-by-side with the Marine Corps in a national Toys 4 Tots campaign, and spent four weekends working with the Salvation Army. The cadets also supported their adopted charity, Canines For Combat Veterans, raising more than \$21,000 through its annual "March-A-Thon".

One hundred Monty Tech cadets attended adventure training and leadership camps, hosted on Cape Cod and Boswell, Pennsylvania, where they were joined by cadets other JROTC units from across New England. Both camps provided cadets with both individual and team development opportunities.

During the summer of 2014, our Cyber Team was again asked to support three Cyber STEM camps. The Cyber Team coordinated the implementation of three, one-week long camps that focused on defending cyber networks from attacks. The camps also offered an introduction to robotics programming using the VEX Robotics System. The camps were attended by 300 students, representing twenty states.

The Monty Tech JROTC program was honored by a recent invitation issued by Senator Brewer, who asked the unit’s Color Guard to present colors in the senate chamber for the 2014 Memorial Day observation at the Massachusetts State House. This recognition was a true honor for our cadets. The Cadet Corps continues to support community and patriotic functions throughout the district.

Women in Technology

The past year marked the 12th year that the North Central Massachusetts Women In Technology program has been providing opportunities for young women from area high schools to learn firsthand about careers in high-tech and business. Participants spent two days a month working on real-world work projects under the mentorship of company managers at SimplexGrinnell and Tyco Safety Products in Westminster, subsidiaries of Tyco International, a Fortune 500 company.

Students from Monty Tech, Leominster’s Center for Technical Education Innovation, Oakmont, Quabbin, Gardner, Fitchburg and Narragansett participate in the program. Their completed projects are unveiled at an annual end-of-the-year presentation held in Monty Tech’s Performing Arts Center. Corporate sponsors, along

with families, friends and teachers, are invited to attend and see what the students have accomplished during the school year.

This long-standing program continues to offer opportunities to young ladies interested in gaining work experience in a corporate setting. Affiliation with the program, and skills acquired through participation in the Women in Technology program, open doors to career opportunities not otherwise available to high school students. Graduates of the program are also equipped with a foundation to better meet the challenges of an ever-changing and demanding work force.

Each year, graduates of the program go on to rewarding and well-paying careers, made possible by this unique experience.

Student Athletics

The Monty Tech athletic program continues to expand in scope and skill each year. More students and teams compete every season. In fact, during the 2013-2014 school year, the Monty Tech Athletic program saw a record number of student athletes participating in competitive sports programs, more than 450 participants! During the fall of 2013, Monty Tech was well-represented by eighteen teams. In the winter months, there were thirteen teams, and wrapping up the year, spring saw fourteen teams come together at Monty Tech.

Last fall, the Varsity Football team started out strong, winning 5 of their first 7 games to qualify for the playoffs in the new football playoff system. They played a very tough game against St. Bernard's, losing 29 – 22. This may have taken a bit out of their sails as they finished the season 5 – 6. The JV Football team was 8 – 1 – 2 and the Freshmen Football team was 3 – 4. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished at 8 – 6 – 3, qualifying for the post-season tournament, where they lost to Douglas, 3 – 0. The JV Boys Soccer team was 8 – 5 – 1, another improvement over the last year. The Varsity Golf team was 5 – 11 – 1 overall, while the JV Golf team participated in three tournaments, gaining valuable experience on the links. The Varsity Field Hockey team was 12 – 4 – 2, qualifying for the Central Mass Tournament for the fourth consecutive year. They beat Blackstone Valley, 2 – 1, in the first round, and lost to Narragansett 2 – 0 in the quarter finals. The JV Field Hockey team finished at 6 – 5 – 1. The Boys Cross Country team was 11 – 3 and finished 2nd in the Colonial Athletic League with a 5 – 2 record. The Girls Cross Country team was 9 – 3 overall and 5 – 1 in the Colonial Athletic League, finishing 2nd. The Varsity Girls Volleyball team went 4 – 16. They had their annual Bump-Set-Spike competition in October, raising more than \$3,000 to help the fight against Breast Cancer. The JV Girls Volleyball team was 10 – 10 and the Freshmen Girls team continued to improve with an 8 – 6 record. The Varsity Girls Soccer team was 11 – 7 and qualified for the post-season where they lost to Assabet 1 – 0. The JV Girls Soccer team finished at 12 – 3 and will send some fine players to the varsity next year.

The Girls Varsity Basketball finished at 11 – 8 on the season, qualifying for the Central Mass Tournament in Steve Newingham's last season as coach. They lost to South Lancaster Academy, 51 – 46 in the first round. The JV Girls were 11 – 6 and the Freshmen Girls were 10 – 5. The Varsity Boys Basketball team finished at 9 – 10, missing an opportunity for the post season because of a snowed out game. The JV Boys Basketball team was 15 – 4. The Freshmen Boys were 13 – 6. The Wrestling team (a co-op team comprised of students from Fitchburg, Oakmont, Murdock, and Monty Tech) participated in many dual meets and tournaments finishing at 3 – 8. Tyler Popp, a freshman, participated in the State Tournament at the end of the year. The Ice Hockey team (a co-op team comprised of students from Fitchburg and Monty Tech) missed the playoffs for the 2nd year in a row. The JV Ice Hockey team played very well and we should be better next year. We participated in a Co-op Swim team with Leominster, North Middlesex and Oakmont and had 7 swimmers from Monty Tech participating. They swim at the Fitchburg State University pool, one of the best in the area. Indoor Track & Field student athletes each participated in 7 meets, and recorded some fine individual performances.

In the spring, the Varsity Softball team qualified for the Central Mass Tournament with a 12 - 8 record. They beat AMSA, 14 - 1 and lost to Assabet 11 - 5. The JV Softball team was 8 - 5. The Varsity Boys Volleyball team was 17 - 3 and 10 - 0 in the Colonial Athletic League, winning the league title for the 2nd year in a row. They beat Worcester Tech 3- 0 in the first round of the State Vocational Tournament, before losing to Greater New Bedford Vocational 3 - 0 in the finals. The JV Boys Volleyball team played strong all year and finished at 13 - 1. The Varsity Baseball team finished at 10 - 10 and qualified for the post-season tournament, where they lost to Auburn, 8 - 0. The JV Baseball team was 13 - 4 and the Freshmen Baseball team was 9 - 5. Due to poor field conditions, both the Varsity and JV teams played a lot of home games away using the Fitchburg State University and Oakmont fields for games, while the freshmen played a number of their games at the Westminster Babe Ruth field. The Boys Track & Field team was 7 - 1, placing 2nd in the Colonial Athletic league with a 6 - 1 record. The Girls Track & Field team was 6 - 2, also placing 2nd in the Colonial Athletic League with a 5 - 2 record. The Varsity Boys Lacrosse team played in 17 games going 2 - 15. The JV Boys Lacrosse was 10 - 3 - 2, as we look to the future. The Girls Lacrosse team, a co-op with North Central Charter School, finished at 2 - 11 on the year. We had two boys and seven girls play for Fitchburg High School in Boys and Girls Tennis in a Co-Op agreement. He made the Sentinel and Enterprise All-Star team his first year on the team. We may try to add girls to the Co-Op at Fitchburg in tennis next spring.

Congratulations to the Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2013-2014, Patrick Fenton and Brandi Richard.

Postgraduate and Continuing Studies

The Postgraduate & Continuing Studies Program, also known as Monty Tech Nites, continues to update and add courses that emphasize a commitment to excellence by offering affordable, quality, and enjoyable educational experiences. For the Fall of 2013, Monty Tech offered 101 courses "in-house" and another 400+ were offered online. Approximately 840 seats were sold for Fall 2013 courses. In comparison, there were 92 "in-house" courses and, again, over 400 on-line courses offered during the Spring 2014 semester. Approximately 790 seats were sold for Spring 2013 courses.

In March 2014 the postgraduate program successfully graduated our third class of fifteen Emergency Medical Technicians. The students took their practical exam at Monty Tech and proceeded to take their written exam at a state-designated facility. Several graduates have already found employment in their chosen field.

The Director of the Postgraduate & Continuing Studies Program actively seeks information to develop new (and expand existing) certificate and licensure programs that align with regional workforce needs and employment trends.

Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing Program is designed to prepare graduates to practice safely, ethically and in a caring manner for patients who are experiencing common variations in health status in diverse health care settings. This mission, which is consistent with the philosophy and goals of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District, accomplished the following:

- Identifies a strong relationship between academic and vocational preparation
- Stresses the importance of developing critical thinking skills to function safely, effectively, and productively in an ever-changing technical and diverse society
- Supports the maintenance of a positive and caring learning and practice environment

In June 2014, thirty-three (33) students graduated and entered the nursing profession. The class achieved an initial NCLEX pass rate of 88%, and just over 91% of the 2014 graduates are currently working in the North Central area as LPNs in various health care settings from long term care, sub-acute care, clinics and prison health care.

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program continues to develop the “LPN to BSN Bridge” relationship with Fitchburg State University. Additionally, the program is proud to report an expanded partnership with Fitchburg State University, as both institutions were recently awarded a grant known as the "Nurse of the Future" initiative, awarded by the state Department of Higher Education. The grant funding will assist veterans hoping to transition from military to civilian healthcare fields, granting academic credits for previous military training and experience in related fields. The goal of this unique partnership is to have five students enrolled in the program at both Monty Tech and Fitchburg State University annually.

Looking Ahead

While the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District educational community is certainly proud of the achievements of our talented students, faculty, and staff, we continue to have an eye toward the future, always committed to improving our vocational and academic programming, strengthening key partnerships, and maintaining facilities that contribute to student success and achievement. As we look ahead, there are a number of programs and initiatives that we expect will have a positive impact on our school and students for years to come.

Expand partnerships with area colleges and universities: Building upon an already strong partnership with area colleges, Monty Tech hopes to bring additional vocational-technical training opportunities to students that may result in articulated credits. Providing students with an opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school will not only save the students time and money, it validates they very rigorous educational programs in place here at Monty Tech. In 2014-2015, school officials hope to work closely with area college leaders to also accomplish the following:

- Embed MWCC’s Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certificate program into Monty Tech’s Health Occupations program, which would result in students earning an additional eight (8) college credits before leaving Monty Tech;
- Work closely with MWCC and Becker College to develop a Cyber Security certificate and/or degree program that aligns with Monty Tech’s already very successful Information Technology (and Cyber Security) program;
- Establish a branch office of a financial institution (*to be named later*), which would allow instructors in the school’s Business Technology program to expand the scope of their curriculum to include financial literacy, bank teller employability training, as well as provide a much-needed service to the Monty Tech educational community. Upon the establishment of this banking institution, Monty Tech school officials will work to develop articulation agreements with area colleges who will honor the valuable experiences learned from the expanded curriculum;
- Continue discussions regarding the development of a \$30,000 Baccalaureate Degree program with leaders at four Central Massachusetts public higher educational institutions: Fitchburg State University, Mount Wachusett Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester State University. Upon completion, Monty Tech graduates will benefit from an agreement that outlines a “stackable pathway” of college credits that are guaranteed to transfer across these institutions, saving students in Central Massachusetts time and money as they pursue advanced education and training.

Expand AP offerings: While Monty Tech currently offers a limited menu of Advanced Placement coursework, district officials anticipate expanding AP offerings in the coming years. Grounded in the belief that because today's vocational programs are rigorous and complex, high school academic offerings should be as well. To that end, administrators have considered introducing courses such as AP Environmental Science, AP United States History, and even AP Computer Science Principles (*available Fall 2016*).

Seek grant funds to support the addition of cutting edge vocational-technical educational programming: In an effort to maintain currency, appeal to a broad spectrum of students, and address documented, regional workforce needs, Monty Tech officials are actively seeking grant funding that would support the establishment of a new vocational-technical program, Animal Science/ Vet Tech. District officials, in collaboration with post-secondary partners, seek to establish a cutting edge veterinary science program, addressing a documented need in the career/technical education offerings in North Central Massachusetts, significantly bolster the local workforce, and create an opportunity for students to successfully bridge from secondary to post-secondary education. There are only five Chapter 74 animal science programs in high schools across the Commonwealth, and students in the Monty Tech sending districts do not have access to any of these programs. As a result, our students are at a distinct disadvantage for related employment opportunities.

Expand Summer Camp offerings: The school's Dean of Admissions has developed an expanded Summer Camp program that will bring additional opportunities to interested 6th – 8th grade students in our eighteen sending communities. Students will be invited to attend one of eight innovative summer enrichment programs, each designed to introduce students to vocational programming, familiarize them with our school, and culminate in an exciting field trip! Additionally, thanks to the continued generosity of the Monty Tech Foundation, scholarships will be available to students who qualify for free/reduced lunches, and all costs associated with the field trip will be covered for every participant.

The Monty Tech School Committee

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Committee is comprised of twenty-two dedicated individuals, whose expertise proves invaluable in advising the district's operations, policies, and procedures.

Our students continue to benefit from the broad scope of their experience and varying perspectives, and we are thankful to the following members of the 2013-2014 School Committee for their outstanding service.

Eric Olson, Phillipston
Chair

Barbara Reynolds, Lunenburg
Vice Chair

Diane Swenson, Ashburnham
Peter Capone, Ashby
Toni L. Phillips, Athol
John Scott, Barre
Claudia Holbert, Fitchburg
Brian J. Walker, Fitchburg
Ronald Tourigny, Fitchburg
LeRoy Clark, Fitchburg
Helen Lepkowski, Gardner
Eric D. Commodore, Gardner

TBD, Harvard
James Cournoyer, Holden
Kathleen Airoidi, Hubbardston
Edward Simms, Petersham
John P. Mollica, Princeton
Mary C. Barclay, Royalston
Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Sterling
James M. Gilbert, Templeton
Walter Taylor, Westminster
Burton E. Gould, Jr., Winchendon

Terri Hillman, Winchendon
Secretary

Norman J. LeBlanc
District Treasurer

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D.
Superintendent-Director
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School
January 12, 2015

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School
1050 Westminster Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 345-9200
www.montytech.net

CHAPTER EIGHT COMMITTEES

Report of the Boards &
Committees of the Town

Athol-Orange Joint Cable Advisory Committee
584 Main Street 6 Prospect Street
Athol MA 01331 Orange MA 01364

May 18, 2015

RE: FY 2014 Annual Report

The Athol Orange Joint Cable Advisory Committee continued its directive of negotiating the Franchise Renewal License for cable services for the towns of Athol and Orange. The work of the committee was carried out by its members: Nancy Blackmer, Carolyn Salls, and Walt Owens of Orange and Dan Carey, Robert Schwein, and Mark Wright, Chair, of Athol. The committee conducted ascertainment through research, public hearing and surveys, using the data to formulate a draft license then negotiated with the current cable vendor to renew the license. The committee has been meeting monthly throughout the entire three year process with few exceptions. The final recommended license is scheduled to be delivered to the boards before the current license expires on June 19th, 2015.

The cable franchise license renewal process is long and requires a substantial commitment on the part of committee members. The final product represents hundreds of hours of research and meetings. State and Federal regulations guide the process and many timing deadlines must be made in order for the final outcome to be legal. Special Counsel was engaged to ensure that all requirements as well as the best interests of the communities were met.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Wright, Chairman

CAPITAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen & the Citizens of the Town Athol;

The Capital Program Commission saw a sharp drop in requests this year from \$2 million to just under \$500,000 from Town Departments. This was a result of the Town Manager's directive that there would very little money to be spent on Capital Improvements for FY14. The Committee members were, as always, appreciative of the professionalism of the Department Heads to do their homework ahead of time and create a priority list that enables the CPC to spend the available funds wisely. The Capital Program Committee spent a total of \$296,000 on various projects including the repointing of the brick at the Athol Senior Center, repairs to the Town Hall roof and copula, and a replacement brush truck for the fire department.

The Charter for the Town of Athol states the Capital Program Committee shall study proposed capital outlays involving the acquisition of land or an expenditure of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) or more having a useful life of at least three years. The Committee is further charged with studying the need, timing and cost projection of these projects and the effect each will have on the financial position of the Town.

The budget is typically funded from a combination of taxation, free cash and occasionally from unspent balances in prior year Capital Planning accounts. It is the committee's practice to meet with each department head to review the department's current status and future needs. After all of these assessments the Committee meets again to deliberate and form its annual budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Capital Program Committee meets jointly with the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Warrant Advisory Committee each April to present its annual budget in preparation of the June Annual Town Meeting.

Lastly, the Capital Program Committee will meets to make recommendations on other projects as they relate to the overall infrastructure of the Town of Athol, for example the renovation to the Athol Public Library and the Town of Athol Five-Year Energy Use Reduction Plan. In March the Capital Program Committee met with the Energy Committee and voted to support a Green Communities grant application in the amount of \$171,000 which would fund one of two options: an energy management system to monitor and control energy use by municipal buildings and facilities or a variable refrigerant flow (VRF) system for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) for the \$8.5 million renovation and expansion of the Athol Public Library.

Members serve five year terms and include representatives from both the Planning Board & the Finance & Warrant Advisory Committee. Current members are Chairman Robert Muzzy, Vice Chairman James Smith, Michael Butler, Dennis Killay, Linda Oldach, Planning Board representative John Lambert and FWAC representative Erik Euvrard.

Respectfully Submitted;

Robert Muzzy

Department	Item/Project	CPC Budget FY13	CPC General FY13	CPC Transfer
Assessing	Revaluation	44,322.40	18,510.34	25,812.06
	Subtotal	44,322.40	18,510.34	25,812.06
COA	Senior Center Furniture	50,000.00	50,000.00	
	Subtotal	50,000.00	50,000.00	
Town Hall	Electrical System Update analysis	4,000.00	4,000.00	
	Subtotal	4,000.00	4,000.00	
Fire - vehicles				
Fire - projects	Plymo-Vent, upgrade diesel exhaust system	45,000.00	45,000.00	
Fire - equipment	Accountability System	15,000.00	15,000.00	
	Subtotal	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00
DPW - Vehicles	Leases, Repairs, Replacement	150,000.00	77,747.33	72,252.67
DPW - Buildings		0.00	0.00	
DPW - Projects	Non- Chapter 90	60,000.00	60,000.00	
	Grant Project match	50,000.00	50,000.00	
	Infrastructure	75,000.00	75,000.00	
	Dam Improvements	30,000.00	30,000.00	
	Bridge / Culvert Improvements	40,000.00	40,000.00	
	Cemeteries	9,942.09	9,942.09	
DPW-- Water	Improvements & Vehicle	25,000.00		25,000.00
DPW-- Sewer	Improvements & Vehicle	25,000.00		25,000.00
	Sub Total	464,942.09	342,689.42	122,252.67
Library		20,560.32	0.00	20,560.32
	Sub Total	20,560.32	0.00	20,560.32
Police - Vehicles	Cruiser	39,100.00		39,100.00
Police - Equipment				
Police - Project	Radio Tower relocation w/ AFD	25,000.00	18,000.00	7,000.00
	Sub Total	64,100.00	18,000.00	46,100.00
ARRSD				
Buildings	Pleasant St. School boiler	35,000.00	35,000.00	
Equipment				
	Sub Total	35,000.00	35,000.00	
CIP Reserve				
	Total CPC Budget	742,924.81	528,199.76	214,725.05

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
FY14**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Charter Review Committee is appointed annually by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee is made up of the following: The Moderator, Town Clerk, a member of the Board of Selectmen, a member of the Charter Commission and 4 citizens.

The Charter Review Committee review's the Town of Athol's Charter and makes recommended changes to the Board of Selectmen and to the voters in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 43B.

In April 2014, the Charter Review Committee submitted the following proposed charter amendments to the Town Clerk for the Fall Town Meeting. A Public Hearing was held by the Board of Selectmen on June 4, 2014 on the proposed amendments.

Amendment #1

Current Charter Language

5-1-1 The Board of Selectmen, by an affirmative vote of at least four members shall appoint a Town Manager for an indefinite term to serve at its pleasure.

Proposed Charter Amendment

5-1-2 The Board of Selectmen, by an affirmative vote of at least **three** members shall appoint a Town Manager for an indefinite term to serve at its pleasure.

Amendment #2

Current Charter Language

5-2-2 In selecting a Town Manager, the Board of Selectmen shall conduct a search for candidates, including an advertisement in a then current publication serving the municipal management profession. The Town Manager need not be a resident of the Town when appointed, but he shall take up full-time residence within eight months following his appointment. He shall not have held an elective Office of the Town of Athol within two years immediately prior to his appointment.

Proposed Charter Amendment

5-2-2 In selecting a Town Manager, the Board of Selectmen shall conduct a search for candidates, including an advertisement in a then current publication serving the municipal management profession. ~~The Town Manager need not be a resident of the Town when appointed, but he shall take up full-time residence within eight months following his appointment.~~ He shall not have held an elective Office of the Town of Athol within two years immediately prior to his appointment.

Amendment #3

Add new section

5-2-3 The Town Manager need not be a resident of the Town when appointed, but he shall take up full-time residence within one (1) year following his appointment. Legal residence or domicile shall be his true home or principal residence and shall be the center of their domestic, economic, social and civic life. The Town Manager shall not choose to make his home one place for the general purposes of domestic, economic, social, and civic life as defined above and in another for employment.

Amendment #4

Current Charter Language

5-4-1 During the first six months of his appointment, the Board of Selectmen may remove the Town Manager by an affirmative vote of at least four members.

Proposed Charter Amendment

5-4-1 During the first six months of his appointment, the Board of Selectmen may remove the Town Manager by an affirmative vote of at least **three** members.

Amendment #5

Current Charter Language

5-4-7 Final removal of any Town Manager recruited under this Charter shall be affected by the affirmative vote of at least four members of the Board of Selectmen at a public Meeting of the Board held within seven days of such public hearing, if he has so requested one. If he has not requested a hearing, final removal may be affected by at least four affirmative votes of the Board held not earlier than fourteen days after the vote initiating the removal. The salary of the Town Manager shall continue to be paid as provided by an employment contract, if any, between the Board and the Town Manager, or in the absence of such a contract, as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, provided however that in no instance shall the amount paid after the Manager's removal from Office exceed the equivalent of one month's salary for each year served up to a maximum of six months.

Proposed Charter Amendment

5-4-7 Final removal of any Town Manager recruited under this Charter shall be affected by the affirmative vote of at least **three** members of the Board of Selectmen at a public Meeting of the Board held within seven days of such public hearing, if he has so requested one. If he has not requested a hearing, final removal may be affected by at least **three** affirmative votes of the Board held not earlier than fourteen days after the vote initiating the removal. The salary of the Town Manager shall continue to be paid as provided by an employment contract, if any, between the Board and the Town Manager, or in the absence of such a contract, as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, provided however that in no instance shall the amount paid after the Manager's removal from Office exceed the

equivalent of one month's salary for each year served up to a maximum of six months.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Williams, Chairman

Heather Brissette

Nancy Burnham

Lee Chauvette

Ben Feldman

Susannah Lee

Lawrence McLaughlin

Elizabeth Peterson

MEMORIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE FY14

Town Bylaws Chapter IV, Section 1(b) states "The town hall building, dedicated as a memorial to Athol's soldiers and sailors of all wars, shall be known as Memorial Building. The Memorial Building Committee is responsible for the care, custody, and control of the entire Memorial Building Committee. The Committee shall consist of three Selectmen and four voters appointed by the Town Manager. This Committee with the aide of the Town Manager shall employ necessary janitors and caretakers, and attend to the lighting, heating, care and repair of the building, and make reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with these bylaws for the use and occupancy of said building."

In May 2014, MIIA Risk Control Manager Bob Marinelli assessed two areas of hazardous conditions at the Town Hall. The areas identified were the staircase on the west side of the building and the roof/steeple. In his report, he states that "Significant deterioration of the building resulted in breaking off and falling of large pieces of debris (concrete). Such conditions pose an immediate threat to the safety of pedestrians that could results in serious injury or death".

The Committee recommended using jersey barriers to block the side entrance and use caution tape to prevent access into the building. This will also result in the driveway between the town hall and library to be closed. The Committee also voted to seek funding for engineering and/or repair of the steeple and staircase

Respectfully submitted,

Ben J. Feldman, Chairman
Anthony Brighenti
Nancy E. Burnham
Lee E. Chauvette
Paul Dubey
John R. Greene

Memorial Hall Revitalization Fund Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen & Residents of Athol:

In FY14, the Memorial Hall Revitalization Fund Committee continued fundraising through the open mic series and donations, as we continued to work toward our goal of completing acoustic treatment in 2017. A new acoustic test was done and paid for by an anonymous donor, which showed a tremendous reduction in the problematic reverb first measured in the initial acoustic test in 2005.

Fundraising continues as we near the completion of the acoustic phase of the project. Once the acoustic phase of the revitalization is complete, the committee will focus on raising funds for the project's other phases including sound and lighting system upgrades and equipment for ADA compliance. Members of the committee continue to be enthusiastic about the progress so far and are proud to contribute to the community they love.

Sincerely,

Ethan Stone

PLANNING BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

The Planning Board meets on the First (1st) Monday of every Month unless a holiday or election comes into play then we meet on the second (2nd) Monday of the Month.

Over the past year we had held 4 (four) public hearings, two (2) on zoning bylaw changes, one(1) for a flag lot for Johnny & Pennie Mallet of 1120 New Sherborn Road Athol, Mass and the other Public Hearing was for Low Impact Development to be included in our Subdivision Rules and Regulations.

We had 4 ANRS (Approval not required) come before the board and (1) one was for the Athol Public Library for 12,800 sq. feet of land on the easterly side of Island St. to be conveyed to the Town of Athol from the L. S. Starrett Co.

Over the course of our meetings we had a presentation for the New Elementary School to be built in the Town of Athol and also several discussions on the vegetation planting at the Adams Farm/Soltas Energy located on Bearsden Road in Athol Mass.

Our Planning Board members are: Calvin Taylor, Chairman
Lynn Harper, Chair
John Lambert
David Maroni
Ann Taylor

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen & the Citizens of the Town of Athol

Vacant and Abandoned Properties Committees Report

The VABC has been behind the demolition of eight properties, four of which the town demolished through town meeting generated funds; the other four were removed by the property owners after receipt of demand letters from the town. The VABC has enough funds to potentially demolish one more building and after that will have to seek more funding at town meeting to demolish a few others that are concerns.

There are 143 properties currently registered as vacant, bringing in \$16,775.00 in revenue for the town, making us aware of properties that we may not otherwise know about, and providing owner/contact information for many bank owned properties. The VABC has a list of vacant properties which is periodically updated, and is continuously identifying properties that are vacant and /or abandoned, which is a very time consuming task.

We have purchased a tablet with the help of retired Chief Lozier through Emergency Management that we use to maintain an active database of all vacant properties and known hazards that is linked to the dispatch computer at the Fire Station. This helps the Fire Department to have knowledge of building conditions as soon as a call comes in. It is technology that was created by MRPC at no charge to the town of Athol. It is the first of its kind in the area, and provides knowledge that has the potential to save firefighters lives.

The VABC receives complaints periodically of open doors and windows in some of these buildings and upon investigation, many times has determined that malicious activity has taken place. We have worked with the Police Department on many cases of copper theft and vandalism, and have had squatters removed from unsafe buildings. The committee secures any building that is determined to be open.

The Town of Athol also received a HomeCorps Municipal and Community Restoration Grant from the MA Attorney General's Office. This initiative was developed to help mitigate the impact of the foreclosure crisis and combat its negative impact on neighborhoods. This grant funding was a result of a nationwide settlement involving the nation's five largest mortgage servicers and their connection with unlawful foreclosures and loan servicing. The VABC and the Board of Health worked hand in hand with Attorney Kiernan Reid of the AGO on twenty three properties, through receivership. Through this program a number of properties have had Sanitary Code violations abated, and the properties have either been auctioned, or are in process of repair and auction.

The VABC meets twice a month to discuss issues related to vacant and abandoned buildings and to set goals and objectives. The members of the VABC are committed to do their very best for the citizens of Athol and to make it a much safer and more attractive place to live.

Sincerely,

Brianna Skowyra, Chairman

Zoning Bylaw Review Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen;

During the June, 2014 town meeting, The Zoning Bylaw Review Committee (ZBRC) presented a proposal for a zoning bylaw for the siting of Registered Marijuana Dispensaries within the town. The proposed bylaw was passed by the townspeople in attendance during that meeting.

During the October, 2014 town meeting, the ZBRC submitted to the town warrant, two warrant articles. The first was a proposal to change the definition of "Kennel" to the definition for "Kennel" as defined by MGL Ch. 140, Sec. 136A. The definition for "Kennel" had recently been changed by the Massachusetts Legislature and this warrant article updated the town's definition to match the definition in MGL. The warrant article was overwhelmingly passed at the town meeting.

The second warrant article submitted to the town warrant by the ZBRC was a proposal to change the "Animal Kennel or Hospital" use in the Use Regulation Schedule by adding a footnote that referenced Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 136A. In addition to changing the definition for Kennel, the Massachusetts Legislature created definitions for "Commercial boarding or training kennel", "Commercial breeder kennel", "Domestic charitable corporation kennel", "Personal kennel", "Shelter", and "Veterinary kennel". The footnote incorporated these definitions into the town's zoning bylaws. However, this warrant article was not included on the town warrant due to a clerical error by the Town Manager's office.

The ZBRC also assisted the town's Office of Planning and Development to draft the Adaptive Reuse Overlay District zoning bylaw. This bylaw defined the criteria for the reuse of public schools and municipal buildings located in the Residential A, Residential B and Residential C zoning districts. This bylaw was presented and passed at the October, 2014 Town Meeting.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Godin

Current Committee Members:

Richard D. Godin, Chairman

Bill Aucoin, Vice-Chairman

Pam Brown, Secretary